UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/6 (Prog. 14)
1 September 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme 14. Trade expansion, export promotion and service sector development

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1(1987)).

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. This fascicle covers subprogrammes 1 to 6 of revised programme 14, Trade expansion, export promotion and services sector development, which relates to activities implemented by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. These subprogrammes will be reviewed by the Working Party on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget of the Trade and Development Board at its meeting from 31 August to 8 September 1992.

---

* After adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, the complete revised medium-term plan will be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1).

92-41310 4138a (E) 090992 100992

/...

4. On account of the proposed new structure and extensive revisions, reflecting decisions of the eighth session of UNCTAD, held in February 1992, the complete text of subprogrammes 1 to 6 is presented below in its entirety. In order to facilitate the review of the new narrative of these subprogrammes, the table below indicates the existing subprogrammes of programmes 13 and 14 contained in A/45/6/Rev.1, and the corresponding new subprogrammes, as well as the new subsidiary bodies established by UNCTAD at its eighth session to deal with respective issues:

Proposed new subprogrammes of programme 14	Corresponding programme/subprogramme in A/45/6/Rev.1
1. Structural adjustment and trading opportunities	Part of 13/2. Structural adjustment and trade expansion
2. Export capacity (new ad hoc Working Group on Expansion of Trading Opportunities for Developing Countries established)	Part of 13/2. Structural adjustment and trade expansion
3. Trade efficiency (new ad hoc Working Group on Trade Efficiency established)	Part of 13/9. Data management and trade facilitation
4. Service development (new Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors established)	Part of 13/3. Cross-sectoral issues
5. Shipping, ports and multimodal transport	13/8. Maritime and multimodal transport
6. Insurance	14/4. Insurance

5. Subprogrammes 7 to 10 of this programme, which relate to activities implemented by the secretariat of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT previously covered in subprogrammes 10 to 13 of former programme 13, International trade, are covered in an addendum to this fascicle.

Programme 14. Trade expansion, export promotion and service sector development

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
A.	Programme	14.1 - 14.13	4
	1. General orientation	14.1 - 14.4	4
	2. Overall strategy	14.5 - 14.11	5
	3. Subprogramme structure and priorities	14.12 - 14.13	6
B.	Subprogrammes	14.14 - 14.53	7
	1. Structural adjustment and trading opportunities	14.14 - 14.18	7
	2. Export capacity	14.19 - 14.23	9
	3. Trade efficiency	14.24 - 14.30	11
	4. Service development	14.31 - 14.35	15
	5. Shipping, ports and multimodal transport	14.36 - 14.49	18
	6. Insurance	14.50 - 14.53	23

PROGRAMME 14. TRADE EXPANSION, EXPORT PROMOTION AND SERVICE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

A. Programme

1. General orientation

14.1 This particular programme is concerned with the issues related to the role of trade expansion as an instrument of economic growth and development, and in this context, with the issues pertaining to the expansion of trading opportunities, particularly of developing countries, including structural adjustment and the development of their export capacity.

14.2 The programme also covers the issues related to the role of the service sectors, which have emerged as a highly dynamic segment of the world economy and as a major determinant of productivity and competitiveness. For the developing countries, they have assumed strategic significance for their development process. A growing number of them are now in a position to develop exports of services in a range of areas. Some are dependent on the export of services for their foreign exchange earnings. Thus, for the developing countries, rapid and balanced expansion of their service sectors and increasing their participation in trade in services would enable them to benefit from their comparative advantage in a number of service sectors, and would contribute to their development process and to increased efficiency in the world economy.

14.3 A particular aspect of efficiency covered by this programme relates to the use of new techniques in international trade transactions and procedures that are capable of producing substantial time and money savings in these areas. Such international trade efficiency would require a truly universal use of electronic data interchange, and the integration of countries and regions less advanced in this process in order to give them access to new sources of trade competitiveness. In this connection, domestic models adapted to each level of development are likely to help actual and preferential traders and the public sector to integrate themselves into, and benefit from, international trade efficiency and to build up the local infrastructures to foster foreign trade and investment.

14.4 The programme also includes issues dealing with trade promotion and export development. The business sectors in developing countries are confronted with a pressing need to develop, promote and implement more sophisticated and aggressive marketing strategies capable of securing for their products steadily expanding shares in world markets. This task, requiring extensive technical cooperation support at the enterprise level, implies a substantial upgrading and expansion of the marketing efforts by developing country enterprises in product development and adaptation techniques to assure: an efficient performance of their products in highly competitive markets; the establishment of effective networks of business contacts in world markets, assuring the ability of developing country traders to secure feedback, on a continuing basis, of emerging business opportunities; and the development of business partnerships between developing country exporters/importers and their trading partners in world markets. The above understandably calls for the availability of technical trade promotion support facilities in the developing countries, to develop and promote efficient trade development and promotion within their business sectors. The International

Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC) has an important and complementary role to play as the United Nations system's focal point for technical cooperation activities in trade promotion and expo t development, with the broad objective of strengthening national capabilities for the development and promotion of products from developing countries, and improving their import operations and management, thereby increasing their foreign exchange earnings.

2. Overall strategy

14.5 The programme will be implemented in close cooperation with Member States, other intergovernmental organizations and, as appropriate, non-governmental actors such as enterprises, trade unions, the academic community and non-governmental organizations. In the implementation of its programme, the UNCTAD secretariat will be guided by the decisions taken by UNCTAD at its eighth session regarding the institutional adaptation, functions and methods of work of the organization. ITC will implement its programme in accordance with its mandate under Economic and Social Council resolution 1814 (LV), General Assembly resolutions 44/219 and S-18/3, and the Final Act of the seventh session of UNCTAD, chapter IIB, paragraph 85.

14.6 As it enters the 1990s, ITC is equipped with a multi-disciplinary technical research and development capability and an extensive infrastructure of technical cooperation projects in developing countries. That capability is at the disposal of Governments and focuses on enabling export sectors in developing countries to keep up-to-date with developments in international trade. Rapid technological advances and constantly evolving market conditions have made the monitoring of trade opportunities a basic condition for the economic survival of nations. The development of the technical research and development capabilities of the Centre is linked with its technical cooperation activities at the national, subregional and regional levels. It is that linkage that has enabled the Centre to develop a service capability that is attuned to the vital trade development issues being pursued by Governments and business communities in developing countries.

14.7 The function of ITC of monitoring world trade conditions assumed added urgency in the late 1980s when policy commitments in developing countries to export development and trade promotion intensified with stringencies in international liquidity and as rapid advances in communications technologies simplified the exchange of trade information. The institution and service-building efforts of the Centre, which had begun in the late 1960s, appeared in the late 1980s to have brought about a state of institutional readiness in a number of developing countries, thus ensuring better utilization of trade monitoring capabilities of the Centre at the national level. Dissemination of trade information at the level of export enterprises emerged in the latter part of the 1980s as a necessary and practicable undertaking in most countries participating in technical cooperation projects.

14.8 Paralleling its efforts in the export sector, ITC is prepared in the 1990s to base a major part of its technical cooperation activities in import management on the development of improved networks for the exchange of information on sources of supply and on advising and training the officials concerned on more efficient utilization of that information. It is thus expected that improved information on alternative sources of imports should,

by the mid-1990s, lead to an overall improvement in the utilization of developing country resources and constitute at the same time a powerful instrument in promoting trade among developing countries. A number of issues with which the Centre was increasingly concerned in the late 1980s will continue to be the subject of major efforts. Those are special assistance to the least developed countries, expansion of trade and technical cooperation among developing countries, rural export development, improvement of the role of women in development, human resource development, and environmental aspects of trade and export services, which will be integrated in a cross-programmatic manner in the period of the medium-term plan.

14.9 In the mid-1980s, ITC launched a strategy at the enterprise level aimed at accelerating export growth at that level in developing countries. By the late 1980s, a significant part of the overall programme of the Centre was being devoted to the implementation of that strategy at the request of cooperating Governments. Individual enterprises producing products with good export prospects now benefit from multi-year packages of technical cooperation in export management, and market and product development. The performance of such projects is assessed mainly in terms of additional export earnings generated by the enterprises as a result of project support.

14.10 Coordination with other United Nations bodies will take place through various means, including regular consultations and, as appropriate, joint reviews of work programmes. Joint working groups may also be established, such as those established with IMO and ILO in the area of maritime training. Joint and cooperative activities with other agencies will be strengthened in both research and technical cooperation areas. UNCTAD's experience with such joint activities, for example, with the World Bank, FAO, UNIDO and ITC, has been a positive and useful one. Likewise, cooperation, including the organization of joint activities, with the regional commissions will be reinforced, building on the successful experiences in the past, as in the areas of trade and transport with ESCAP, ECA and ECLAC. UNCTAD will also continue to participate actively in inter-agency forums on a wide range of issues, including that dealing with the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s.

14.11 Cooperation will be strengthened with other international bodies such as OECD and integration groupings, and with non-governmental actors such as enterprises, trade unions, the academic community and non-governmental organizations across the whole range of UNCTAD's activities. Such cooperation may include the establishment of flexible and informal mechanisms involving the participation of non-governmental actors, particularly the enterprise sector, so as to benefit from their advice on specific issues.

3. Subprogramme structure and priorities

14.12 The programme on trade expansion, export promotion and services sector development will consist of the following subprogrammes:

Subprogramme 1. Structural adjustment and trading opportunities

Subprogramme 2. Export capacity

Subprogramme 3. Trade efficiency

Subprogramme 4. Services development

Subprogramme 5. Shipping, ports and multimodal transport

Subprogramme 6. Insurance

14.13 Subprogrammes 1 and 4 are designated high priority.

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT AND TRADING OPPORTUNITIES

(a) Objectives

14.14 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 42/175 and S-18/3; the Final Act of the seventh session of UNCTAD, paragraphs 101-105 (1-24); Trade and Development Board decisions 179 (XVIII), 367 (XXXV) and 398 (XXXVIII), annex C; "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment"; Special Committee on Preferences resolutions 6 (IX), 11 (XVII) and 12 (XVIII), and decision 9 (XVI).

14.15 Appropriate structural policies aimed at promoting structural adjustment and more dynamic growth in the world economy constitute a crucial element to ensure the enhanced participation in the world economy of developing countries, as well as countries undergoing the process of transition to market economies. In particular, such policies could contribute to expanding the trading opportunities of developing countries through the diversification and growth of their export capacity and the enlargement and improvement of their export market opportunities.

14.16 The objectives of the subprogramme will be:

(a) To promote expeditious and concrete structural adjustment actions within the existing mandate of UNCTAD, favourable, in particular, to the widening of markets for export products where developing countries have or may develop a comparative advantage;

(b) To promote economic reforms in order to allow economies to adjust to new realities in pursuit of national objectives;

(c) To contribute through structural adjustment to the expansion of trading opportunities of developing countries and the diversification and growth of their export supply capabilities;

(d) To contribute to the expansion of the trading opportunities of developing countries through the enlargement and improvement of their export market opportunities;

(e) To contribute to the fulfilment of commitments in the field of international trade, including provisions of differential and more favourable treatment to developing countries;

(f) To contribute to the implementation, maintenance and improvement of the generalized, non-reciprocal, non-discriminatory system of preferences in favour of developing countries, including the consideration of improvements relating to extension of product coverage, simplification and harmonization of rules of origin, limitations, restrictions or withdrawal of preferences, the incidence of non-tariff measures; scope and modalities for extension of preferential treatment to developing countries in respect of goods; increase of preferential margins and duty-free treatment to offset decreases in most favoured nation rates resulting from the Uruguay Round; and substantially improved market access and special trade treatment for the least developed countries;

(g) To identify opportunities for trade expansion and economic cooperation between developing countries and individual countries in Central and Eastern Europe resulting from the shift of the latter countries to a market economy.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

14.17 The UNCTAD secretariat will contribute to:

(a) Encouraging an effective exchange of experiences of member States with regard to structural adjustment and the elimination of structural rigidities, with a view to facilitating the process of structural adjustment;

(b) Enhancing understanding of factors underlying structural change and adjustment;

(c) Increasing awareness of the need for structural adjustment policies that would provide larger export possibilities for developing countries;

(d) Expanding the trading opportunities of developing countries;

(e) Assessing the impact of import liberalization on general economic development and exports;

(f) Maintaining and improving the generalized system of preferences, including compliance with its multilaterally agreed principles; improving the efficiency and effective use of the generalized system of preferences, especially through strengthening the capacity of preference-receiving countries to utilize export opportunities offered by the schemes;

(g) Enhancing the benefits of developing countries in terms of expansion of trade and reinforcement of economic cooperation with individual countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

14.18 In the light of the above, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Analyse major trends in production, employment and trade in the sectors of manufactures, commodities (including agriculture) and services, with a view to identifying the salient features of structural changes in the world economy;

(b) Maintain and improve the data and information on structural change and adjustment;

(c) Study in depth the factors underlying structural changes in various sectors;

(d) Analyse the main features of structural adjustment policies and the implications of the elimination of structural rigidities in member countries;

(e) Analyse and identify trade expansion opportunities for developing countries arising from liberalization of trade measures hindering the access of their exports;

(f) Research and compare national experiences of developing countries of the impact of import liberalization on general economic development and exports;

(g) Analyse issues relating to the implementation, utilization, maintenance and improvement of the autonomous scheme of the generalized system of preferences, including tne rules of origin;

(h) Analyse factors causing the low utilization of preferences by beneficiaries, particularly by the least developed countries and smaller beneficiaries;

(i) Identify and analyse the scope and possible modalities for extending preferential treatment to developing countries with respect to goods, in accordance with the principles and objectives underlying the generalized system of preferences;

(j) Analyse the scope for increasing preferential margins and duty-free treatment offered under existing preferential schemes following the conclusion of the Uruguay Round and as a result of the most favoured nation rates having been brought down;

(k) Analyse and identify opportunities for trade expansion and economic cooperation between developing countries and individual countries of Central and Eastern Europe resulting from economic reforms in the latter countries;

(l) Provide substantive support to technical cooperation activities relating to promoting structural adjustment and the trading opportunities of developing countries, as well as to effective utilization of the generalized system of preferences; and service bilateral and plurilateral consultations on generalized system of preferences schemes.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. EXPORT CAPACITY

(a) Objectives

14.19 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolution 45/188; UNCTAD resolution 96 (IV); the Final Act of the seventh session of UNCTAD; the Cartagena Commitment, particularly paragraphs 63 (2), 79 and 128; and Trade and Development Board decision 398 (XXXVIII), annex C.

14.20 A large number of developing countries continue to face serious handicaps in their capacity to export. They need to strengthen their supply base and enhance their production and investment in order to expand and diversify their exports to world markets. Improvements in their policy instruments regarding production, investment and exports are important means for stimulating their growth and development. National policies need to be strengthened further to increase external competitiveness, raise productivity and promote an efficient allocation of resources. A stable and supporting international economic environment and intensified international cooperation can make an important contribution towards enabling developing countries to pursue such objectives successfully. Larger resource flows, including the attraction of foreign direct investment to export-oriented activities, as well as cooperation between domestic and foreign enterprises, can play an important role for the strengthening and diversifying of domestic production, investment and export trade of developing countries.

14.21 The objectives of this subprogramme will be:

(a) To improve the prospects and examine ways for diversification and growth of export supply capabilities of developing countries;

(b) To promote measures, incentives and policies for enhancing the competitiveness of the enterprise sector and industries with an export potential;

(c) To increase export-oriented investment in developing countries by domestic and foreign firms;

(d) To strengthen national capacities for exports in developing countries.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

14.22 The UNCTAD secretariat will contribute to:

(a) Enhancing understanding of the functioning of supply-oriented policies for the development of an internationally competitive, export-oriented enterprise sector;

(b) Improving the design and implementation of policy instruments for increased and diversified investment in export-oriented production;

(c) Promoting international cooperation and partnership in investment, production, technology and export marketing between domestic and foreign enterprises;

(d) Improving the capacity of policy makers to design policies for strengthening the export supply and marketing capacities of domestic enterprises;

(e) Enhancing understanding of the incidence of the macroeconomic and sectoral policy framework for an efficient, export-oriented productive sector.

14.23 In the light of the above, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Study factors acccunting for the diversity of export performance between developing countries; and analyse various national experiences in order to identify national measures, incentives and policies for enhancing the competitiveness of sectors and industries with an export potential;

(b) Analyse factors conducive to increased investment in export-oriented industries; and examine policies and measures to increase export-oriented investment and cooperation in developing countries by foreign and domestic firms;

(c) Identify specific policy instruments to strengthen and diversify export supply capacities of developing countries;

(d) Evaluate the role of an appropriate government policy framework for the development of an export-oriented enterprise sector;

(e) Identify possibilities for international cooperation for strengthening export supply capacities of developing countries; and provide support to technical cooperation and training for Governments and the enterprise sector with the objective of strengthening competitiveness and export capacities.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. TRADE EFFICIENCY

(a) Objectives

14.24 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from the Cartagena Commitment, paragraphs 156 to 161; and Trade and Development Board decision 398 (XXXVIII), annex C.

14.25 Recent advances in information technologies have enabled thousands of small, medium-sized and large enterprises in many countries to take a quantum leap in the area of trade efficiency. In many countries, including developing countries, trade facilitation strategies or policies relating to electronic data interchange have been particularly effective in improving trading efficiency of the public and private sectors. Many valuable efforts have been made in both the private and public sectors, as well as in international organizations to define and develop the required standards and procedures. A significant acceleration of this process could be achieved that will provide dramatic savings and increased dynamism in international trade. To this effect, international and national strategies are required to foster the integration of developing regions and regions in transition into this process and define the steps towards trade efficiency.

14.26 In many developing countries and countries undergoing the process of transition to a market economy the first steps have been taken to make traditional structures and attitudes more trade efficient. However, such efforts could remain fruitless if the key sources of trade competitiveness remained out of reach for the proponents and initiators of change. Concerted international action is needed to ensure that all potential participants in international trade can access the new sources of trade competitiveness at a reasonable cost. Since a priority objective of such action will be to increase the number of participants in international trade, innovative approaches will need to be developed to allow those countries which do not

have the basic information infrastructures and technologies to integrate positively in global trade through higher trade efficiency.

14.27 There is an urgent need to increase the international degree of awareness of the growth and development potential that information technologies and new trade efficiency practices represent. The concept of trade efficiency should be promoted as a tool for: (a) strengthening the competitiveness of participants in international trade; and (b) producing internationally acceptable standardized agreements capable of reducing procedural and transaction costs in international trade.

14.28 The objectives of the subprogramme will be:

(a) To contribute to the integration of countries and regions less advanced in the process of trade efficiency with a special emphasis on small and medium-sized enterprises;

(b) To produce domestic models and guidelines to help actual and potential traders and the local public sector to integrate into international trade efficiency and to build up the local infrastructures to foster foreign trade and investment;

(c) To foster transparency in trade-related information, in particular through contributing to a greater awareness of opportunities to access publicly available market information;

(d) To support ongoing efforts to establish electronic data interchange standards, in particular by promoting awareness of the work of ECE/WP4 (Working Party 4) and of possible applications of electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) norms;

(e) To rationalize and streamline trade procedures and facilitate trade generally, including through the automation of customs operation and reform of customs;

(f) To prepare and organize the 1994 World Symposium on Trade Efficiency.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

14.29 The UNCTAD secretariat will contribute to:

(a) Establishing and interconnecting 16 pilot trade points during 1992-1994 in regions representing various types of economic environments; interconnecting the trade efficiency community; and disseminating trade efficiency globally;

(b) Production of domestic models and guidelines for trade efficiency, involving assessments of trade efficiency of trade-supporting sectors such as customs, transport, insurance and banking;

(c) Promotion of transparency in trade-related information, including the establishment of a system of strategic information for trade efficiency and the dissemination of Automated System for Customs Data and Management (ASYCUDA)-generated data to trade points;

(d) Increasing awareness of the work of ECE/WP4 and of possible applications of EDIFACT norms;

(e) Development and implementation of various facilitation measures and of modern technical methods for trade data interchange;

(f) Preparation of the 1994 international symposium on trade efficiency.

14.30 In the light of the above, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Produce reports and research stating and evaluating various country experiences in the area of improved trade efficiency; pursue its technical cooperation activities, in particular through the establishment during 1992-1994 of 16 pilot Trade Points, bringing together under one roof all major participants in a typical trade transaction (e.g. customs, banks, insurance and transport companies), and enabling them to access strategic commercial information through a system for strategic information for trade efficiency, where various experiments regarding trade efficiency will be carried out and evaluated; interconnect the pilot trade points, once established, into a trade points system, and study and evaluate the possibilities to collect and transfer information within the Trade Points, as well as to measure the costs involved. Such interconnections will involve three complementary levels, namely: firstly, a global layer for all participants in international trade interlinked in a trade point external information system, for which a low-cost and universal technical solution will need to be adopted or developed; secondly, extensive and systematic use of electronic data interchange between those participants who have the technical capacity to use it; and thirdly, the development, with inputs from local universities and non-governmental organizations of low-cost interfaces and solutions for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises with little or no electronic data interchange capability, which will allow these enterprises to use advanced information without advanced technology;

(b) Make available information technologies to the trade efficiency community at large through the establishment of trade efficiency networks among: ministers of trade and top decision makers in the area of international trade (confidential decision makers trade efficiency network; experts involved in promoting and using trade efficiency, through an experts trade efficiency network; and academics interested in trade efficiency, through an academia trade efficiency network;

(c) Publicize the results of the experiences of pilot Trade Points and organize the training of trainers in the area of trade efficiency by producing material (implementation guides, videos, trade point kits) for small and medium-sized enterprises worldwide; organize seminars and assessment sessions relating to sectors, technology or other aspects of trade efficiency; promote trade efficiency attitudes through all possible means (press, media, meetings, documents and campaigns) among the main sectors composing trade points, and specific aspects of the trade points system (organization, technology, networking, poverty alleviation);

(d) Produce domestic models and guidelines for the improvement of trade efficiency in regions less advanced in this process by drawing on the

experience of trade points and giving due consideration to local legal and technological conditions;

(e) Produce assessments of the trade efficiency of all main trade-supporting sectors from their points of view and that of traders. For each of these sectors, the legal dimension of existing problems and proposed solutions will be given special attention, for example, through examining the actual or potential value of electronic based documents or the accessibility of proprietary data. The impact of information technologies on the ways in which trade-related services are or could be provided to the various participants in international trade will be assessed. Such studies will include the following aspects:

(i) Customs: organization and automation, with relevant input from the ASYCUDA programme, and paying particular attention to the potential trade efficiency gains to be obtained from selectivity, trade facilitation and drastic reduction in the number of licences;

(ii) Transport: information, cost, time, reliability; the development of information systems in and around the trade points, in order to allow traders to benefit from grouping facilities (freight exchanges and data banks on transport capacities and relative advantages);

(iii) Insurance: information, coverage, cost, provision of information and interfacing systems at trade points, so as to allow traders to access insurance services internationally, possibly through sector-specific international networks such as reinsurance and insurance network;

(iv) Banking: information, time, cost, access; the development of information and fund transfer systems for the benefit of traders at the trade points, giving them access to existing networks (e.g. Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT)) or alternative ones; the development of mechanisms to widen traders' access to credit (e.g. through collective insurance mechanisms);

(f) Undertake studies, research and experiments and in collaboration with other competent institutions such as ITC, OAS, the Customs Cooperation Council, or national customs administrations, develop comprehensive reviews of available systems (on-line and off-line), as well as propose practical solutions and guidelines to promote transparency in trade-related information; establish a system of strategic information for trade efficiency in the form of a simple, low-cost and universal interface through which strategic data (market intelligence), now scattered among various sources, will be made available to all traders through the trade points;

(g) Make ASYCUDA-generated customs data available to trade points, taking advantage of the fact that the 50 countries that are at present members of the ASYCUDA system are in a position to offer reciprocity and thus gain access to most of publicly available customs data; help to provide special arrangements, for example, with data providers, servers or carriers, to allow trade points to gain access to other types of data such as those contained in the major trade-related databases around the world; develop specific tools and interfaces to format ASYCUDA-generated data for specific applications and

systems, and make such applications and systems available to the trading community through trade points;

(h) Undertake studies in order to increase awareness of the work of ECE/WP4; assist the applications using the EDIFACT standards including at trade points; undertake cost/opportunity studies in different types of economic environment, in order to assess the actual and potential impact of the use of electronic data interchange for small and medium-sized enterprises; disseminate the results of relevant research through publications, seminars and other vehicles; organize training sessions for the benefit of developing countries and economies in transition, with the objective of increasing their awareness and knowledge of electronic data interchange and its underlying philosophy, techniques, norms and standards;

(i) Undertake research and development of new standards and measures, including development of automatic data-processing systems specially intended for developing countries;

(j) Provide support to inter-agency coordination activities in this field in order to enable UNCTAD to participate in the adoption of interregional standards, and to better promote their universal adoption, with special emphasis on coordination with the regional commissions and economic groupings in their efforts to assist developing countries in the use of automatic data-processing-related standards such as EDIFACT;

(k) Provide support to technical cooperation activities to allow developing countries to benefit from technological developments achieved mainly in the developed countries, including activities designed to facilitate the implementation of trade facilitation measures coupled with the installation of computer systems, including ASYCUDA, taking into account the fact that the new version of the ASYCUDA system (version 3.0), which incorporates new standards such as EDIFACT or the European Economic Community (EEC)'s Single Administrative Document, will need to be implemented in and beyond the 52 countries that have adopted ASYCUDA so far, so as to promote the rapid establishment of an international network of trade data interchange, at regional and global levels;

(l) Prepare for and organize the world symposium on trade efficiency.

SUBPROGRAMME 4. SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

(a) Objectives

14.31 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from the Final Act of the seventh session of UNCTAD; the Cartagena Commitment, paragraphs 177-188; and Trade and Development Board resolution 380 (XXXVI) and decisions 309 (XXX), and 398 (XXXVIII), annex B.

14.32 The 1980s witnessed significant growth in the importance of the service sector in national economies and in international trade. Producer services, in particular, emerged as a highly dynamic segment of the world economy and as a major determinant of productivity and competitiveness. The strategic significance of services for the development process is increasingly recognized. Although the situation varies according to different service

sectors, developed country firms dominate world trade in services, while most developing countries have not been able to build up a productive and competitive capacity, or to overcome barriers to entry to world markets. An increased participation of developing countries in trade in services would enable them to benefit from their comparative advantage in a number of service sectors and would contribute to their development process and to increased efficiency in the world economy. A growing number of developing countries are now in a position to develop exports of services in a range of areas. Some are dependent on the export of services for their foreign exchange earnings. For others, strengthening their service sectors, including shipping, is crucial in order to enhance their position in international trade in goods. Many recognize the need to create the appropriate conditions conducive to strengthening their service sectors and to increasing their foreign exchange earnings therefrom.

14.33 The objectives for the subprogramme will be:

(a) To make proposals as to national policies aimed at strengthening the production, export and technological capacity of service sectors, taking into account the level of development in different countries, with a view to contributing to development and increasing the participation of developing countries in world trade in services;

(b) To examine difficulties particularly those faced by developing countries in enhancing exports of services, thereby increasing their participation in world trade in services;

(c) To support policies aimed at enhancing cooperation with other countries, at regional, subregional and interregional levels, including mutual trade liberalization, pooling capabilities to improve skills, distribution networks and infrastructure development;

(d) To continue support for concerted policy actions, including the provision of financial assistance on concessional terms, to promote training, as well as acquisition and transfer of technology on terms and conditions agreed to by the parties concerned, to build up technological and human capabilities, so as to enhance the absorption of relevant technologies, and to construct and/or improve basic service infrastructures, including subregional and regional transportation, particularly in low-income countries and least developed countries.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

14.34 The UNCTAD secretariat will contribute to:

(a) Reviewing the development of service sectors in developing countries and comparative analyses of policies, including identification of domestic weaknesses and capabilities, aimed at creating the conditions necessary for the development of competitive service sectors and export of services;

(b) Formulating policies to strengthen the service sector in the developing countries, including issues relating to production and export capacity, and to increase their participation in world trade in this sector;

(c) Identifying sector-specific policy options, with a view to developing competitive service sectors;

(d) Identifying the impact of progressive liberalization in the development of competitive service sectors;

(e) Identifying issues relating to developing countries' access to information networks and distribution channels for services;

(f) Formulating policies aimed at human resource development, the development of knowledge-intensive services and producer services related to primary and manufacturing sectors and telecommunications;

(g) Strengthening the institutional, technological and physical infrastructures of the developing countries;

(h) Improving the capacity of individual countries, in particular developing countries, to benefit from information related to service production, trade and technology.

14.35 In the light of the above, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Analyse specific ways to allow an increasing participation of developing countries in trade in services, including overcoming difficulties they face in their export of services, and improving the functioning of the service markets;

(b) Analyse the role played by the service sector in the development process of individual countries with a view to assisting them in the design of policies to strengthen this sector, including its production and export capacity;

(c) Study the promotion of efficient marketing of export competitive industries and domestic labour skills;

(d) Study developments and trends in the various service sectors, with the aim of identifying sector-specific policy options to increase the participation of developing countries in trade in these sectors;

(e) Study means to facilitate developing countries' access to information networks and distribution channels for services;

(f) Contribute to increasing knowledge of laws and regulations concerning the service sector with a view, inter alia, to improving the legislative framework applying to specific service sectors, adapting it to the requirements of increasing globalization of services, promoting transparency and mutual knowledge of the pertinent regulations;

(g) Strengthen and refine the database for, and statistics on, the service sector at the national, regional and interregional levels;

(h) Provide assistance to developing countries in the implementation of the results of the Uruguay Round negotiations on trade in services;

(i) Study problems and opportunities faced by the countries undergoing transition to a market economy in improving the role of services in their economies, as part of their structural adjustment programmes, with a view to increasing their trade in services and identifying issues for possible international action;

(j) Analyse the interactions between trade in services and environmental protection;

(k) Provide substantive support to technical cooperation activities at national, regional and multilateral levels, including activities to support and assist developing countries in the identification of their weaknesses and capabilities in the service sector and to make their service sector more competitive, and help those developing countries which lack the necessary infrastructures needed for the evolution and development of their national service sectors.

SUBPROGRAMME 5. SHIPPING, PORTS AND MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT

(a) Objectives

14.36 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolution 46/213; the Cartagena Commitment of the eighth session of UNCTAD; and Trade and Development Board decision 398 (XXXVIII), annex B.

14.37 As world trade is mainly seaborne, it is vital for developing countries to develop and strengthen their maritime and multimodal transport sectors and participate in the carriage of goods in order to increase their foreign-exchange earnings or savings therefrom. Given the growing interdependence among the service sectors, their effective participation, which may be facilitated by increasing their capacity to cope with rapidly changing structural and technological developments, is also necessary in order to improve the efficiency of their maritime and multimodal transport and related services and infrastructure facilities.

14.38 As the sea remains the main transport vector, ports will remain a key element in the transport chain. An increase in their productivity can have a direct impact on transport costs and export competitiveness. Modern ports are no longer passive points of interface between sea and land transport, they are becoming service centres with a strong commercial orientation. Efforts to attract, gain and keep new cargo flows will in turn generate new revenue-earning and value-adding businesses. They are thus evolving into integrated transport centres and logistic platforms for international trade. For this reason, ports, in order to remain competitive, have to continue to improve their services, particularly by the introduction of technological improvements and measures to enhance commercial viability and to improve managerial and technical skills.

14.39 Containerization has brought about a revolution in all modes of transport and has created an important new concept, that of multimodal transport, in the transport economy. Unitization of cargo and economies of scale are the main issues. With the introduction of electronic data interchange, transport service providers are integrating their services into efficient transport chains, and the concept of value-added transport chains is

becoming increasingly important. It has led to the development of new services such as third-party logistics services, and the creation of very large transport operators, the so-called "mega-carriers", which take advantage of the potential offered by containerization and modern transport technology.

14.40 Multimodal transport issues are complex, since they make it necessary for Governments to give simultaneous attention to various questions such as transport legislation, trade and transport facilitation, infrastructure development, transport mode operations and human resource development. The individual elements that make up the multimodal transport chain may affect its overall efficiency because of poor infrastructure, bad management and lack of coordination. Multimodal transport requires not only creativity and innovation in developing logistics organizations to move cargo but also an institutional and commercial environment that extends beyond the transport sector.

14.41 The objectives of the subprogramme will be:

(a) To identify elements leading to the development of competitive shipping sectors, in order to enhance the participation of developing countries in world shipping;

(b) To promote an equitable balance of interests between the suppliers and users of shipping services;

(c) To facilitate intraregional and interregional cooperation in the fields of shipping, ports and multimodal transport, including cooperation among developing countries;

(d) To facilitate exchange of information on infrastructure development, including port infrastructure, developments in the shipping sector and technological developments that affect maritime transport;

(e) To develop and improve port services, particularly by the introduction of technological improvements and measures to enhance commercial viability of ports, including issues related to commercialization, privatization and deregulation, and to improve the efficiency of port management operations;

(f) To promote the efficient conduct of multimodal transport processes, bearing in mind economic, commercial and legal aspects;

(g) To increase knowledge of laws and regulations concerning shipping, ports and multimodal transport with a view to adapting them to the requirements of increasing globalization of services, promoting transparency and mutual knowledge of the pertinent regulations.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

14.42 The UNCTAD secretariat will contribute to:

(a) Encouraging the efforts of developing countries and countries undergoing the process of transition to a market economy to develop and adapt their merchant fleets in line with the new realities in the global economy and to enhance the competitiveness and export of their shipping services;

(b) Strengthening intraregional and interregional cooperation, including cooperation among developing countries, in the field of shipping, ports and multimodal transport;

(c) Promoting a balance of interests between the suppliers and users of transport services with particular regard to mechanisms that promote regular consultations on tariff structures and service patterns and other issues of particular interest to the trading community in order to facilitate international trade;

(d) Enhancing understanding of the changing role of ports as industrial and service centres and logistic platforms for national and international trade, and improving port performance through assistance in the improvement of port management skills and application of the legal, administrative and operative changes required by modern transport technologies and new operational demands;

(e) Enhancing understanding of the need for a sound commercialization of ports in developing countries, including privatization wherever appropriate, as well as for cooperative arrangements with other ports of the region towards the achievement of competitive specialization, in view of the heavy financial burdens imposed by the changing technological environment of modern ports;

(f) Promoting the use of international multimodal transport operations and modern transport technology, including the use of transport-related information technology, such as electronic data interchange and the advanced cargo information system;

(g) Encouraging a better understanding of the utilization of the latest techniques in physical distribution management and the transfer of knowledge to countries in need thereof;

(h) Encouraging, as appropriate, the adaptation of existing international legal instruments and agreements relating to the economic and commercial aspects of shipping, ports and multimodal transport services with a view to increasing the efficiency and competitiveness of these sectors;

(i) Strengthening the capacity within developing countries for training and development of human resources in relation to the management of the maritime transport sector through the Training Development in the field of Maritime Transport (TRAINMAR) programme;

(j) Preparing and implementing, in cooperation with the regional commissions concerned, the strategies for shipping, ports and multimodal transport for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decades for both Africa and Asia and the Pacific.

14.43 In the field of shipping policy, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Prepare comparative analyses of national shipping policies and their impact on fleet development and the quality of shipping service;

(b) Study strategies and options for privatization and/or commercialization of state shipping companies and for the establishment of a

national institutional environment aimed at fostering competitive shipping services adequate to the requirements of trade;

(c) Continue to monitor and assist Governments, upon request, in their implementation of the United Nations Conventions on Conditions for Registration of Ships, on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, and on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences, taking into account the scope of application of the provisions of the latter in a liberalized trading environment; undertake follow-up activities pursuant to resolution 2 of the Review Conference on the United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences;

(d) Study the possibilities of economic cooperation among developing countries with regard to policy formulation and implementation as well as to shipping, ports and multimodal transport operations, including the establishment or improvement of intraregional shipping services through joint ventures;

(e) Analyse technological and organizational developments in order to meet requirements regarding the quality and conditions of service and to reduce the gap between the shipping, ports and multimodal transport operations of developed and developing countries.

14.44 In the field of ports and port-related services, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Analyse, in cooperation with specialized bodies, the regional commissions and the private sector, structural, technological and institutional changes in trade and transport and their impact on ports, with a view to developing the concept of the port as a service centre for the facilitation and promotion of the international transport sector;

(b) Undertake research on economic, commercial, financial, organizational, managerial and operational issues in order to improve the efficiency, productivity and competitiveness of port services and assist selected ports through the development and backstopping of technical cooperation projects in the implementation of the results of these studies;

(c) Study legal and environmental issues affecting port development and improve the exchange of information on port-related matters and services.

14.45 In the field of international multimodal transport, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Study the structural changes in transport supply services, particularly the developments of new multimodal transport systems with potential global effects, the evolution towards total transport chains, the needs for new transport infrastructures and the effects of increased competitiveness and liberalization policies on the transport sector of developing countries and countries undergoing the process of transition to a market economy;

(b) Study the structural changes in transport demand and their impact on trade flows and international transport needs for the industries of developing countries;

(c) Monitor developments in transport technology with potential impact on a country's transport infrastructure and investment requirements; develop guidelines and models for harmonization and simplification of administrative procedures; review issues of standardization of containers; and promote the exchange and dissemination of information concerning the efficient conduct of multimodal transport processes, bearing in mind economic, commercial and legal aspects;

(d) Elaborate reference documents setting out basic concepts of multimodal transport and major issues to be dealt with in a market-oriented implementation process, and continue to promote the application of the agreed model rules for container tariffs as well as a standard form and model provisions for multimodal transport documents;

(e) Monitor the harmonization and subregional coordination of the development of multimodal transport;

(f) Undertake research on the development of multimodal sea/air transport services and of inland waterway transport operations;

(g) Strive to achieve a stronger projection at the national level of the multimodal issue and its implications for the economies of developing countries, through appropriate technical cooperation and training, involving specialized organizations, other international bodies and development institutions.

14.46 In support of the above-mentioned activities, recognizing that rules and regulations applicable to international transport are gaining increasing importance in the process of globalization and growing interdependence, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Monitor legal problems encountered by developing countries with regard to efforts of privatization and regional cooperation;

(b) Study the legal aspects related to the implementation of new transport concepts, identifying obstacles and issues related to the harmonization and modernization of existing legal and practical norms and standards for the efficient conduct of shipping, ports and multimodal transport services;

(c) Pursue efforts, jointly with IMO, towards the negotiation of a convention on maritime liens and mortgages and undertake, subject to the outcome of the diplomatic conference for the consideration and adoption of the draft convention on maritime liens and mortgages, further work in relation to the arrest of vessels;

(d) Help to increase knowledge of laws and regulations with a view to their adaptation to the requirements of modern international transport conditions, and provide assistance to Governments, on request, in the development of their national laws and policies, including advice on the application of the international conventions adopted within UNCTAD.

14.47 In the field of technical cooperation, the secretariat will undertake activities at the national, regional and interregional levels to assist developing countries:

(a) To develop competitive shipping services;

(b) To obtain maximum benefits from existing port facilities and from the development of new facilities;

(c) To develop efficient multimodal transport services and to make better use of containers.

14.48 Emphasis will be placed on training, including on-the-job training, through further development and integration of the existing training programmes, TRAINMAR and improving port performance. Assistance will be provided to countries in designing a training policy, establishing a training capability and preparing training programmes properly integrated into a human resource development plan. The TRAINMAR programme will continue to help training centres of developing countries to establish and run their own training courses and, by using a common approach, to cooperate among themselves in enhancing both the quality and volume of training.

14.49 Attention will also be given to the development and implementation of the advance cargo information system with a view to enhancing transport efficiency.

SUBPROGRAMME 6. INSURANCE

(a) Objectives

14.50 The legislative authority for the subprogramme is derived from UNCTAD resolution 42 (III), in particular paragraph 72; and Trade and Development Board decision 398 (XXXVIII).

14.51 Although most developing countries have succeeded in establishing a national insurance sector, it is still in its infancy and affected by a number of structural rigidities and deficiencies, preventing it from providing effective support to other economic sectors and protecting national assets in a cost-effective way. A particular weakness in many developing countries is the smallness of insurance markets and the lack of competition in such markets.

14.52 The objectives of the subprogramme will be:

(a) To strengthen the insurance sector in developing countries so that it can make an effective contribution to their development;

(b) To contribute to enhancing the international competitiveness of insurance services of developing countries.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

14.53 In the light of the above the UNCTAD secretariat will:

(a) Conduct research and prepare analyses on ways to improve the performance of national insurance markets, focusing in particular on:

(i) An expansion of insurance markets by identifying possibilities and difficulties of extending insurance to productive sectors of the national economy hitherto not reached by insurance services, in particular to the agricultural sector;

(ii) Ways and means of improving the general insurance awareness in developing countries, and of improving the marketing of insurance policies, with particular emphasis on rural and semi-urban areas;

(iii) The potential of strengthening the competitiveness of insurance markets through measures of liberalization and privatization;

(iv) Ways of assisting in the creation and/or improvement of a national legislative environment that is conducive to the satisfactory and reliable functioning of insurance markets;

(v) Ways of strengthening insurance supervisory authorities and rendering their services more effective and relevant in a new competitive environment;

(b) Undertake comparative analyses of national policies and experiences of developing countries and their effects in the field of insurance;

(c) Collect, analyse and disseminate statistics on insurance and reinsurance operations in developing countries;

(d) Identify areas where technical cooperation activities can play a crucial role in the development and strengthening of the insurance sector, and provide support to such activities, with particular reference to:

(i) Strengthening of the competitiveness of insurance markets through measures of liberalization and privatization;

(ii) The further development and updating of insurance legislation and the strengthening of supervisory capacity for the effective regulation and control of insurance markets;

(iii) Education and training designed to enable developing countries to acquire the necessary qualified personnel for the effective functioning of their insurance markets;

(iv) Possibilities for increased cooperation among developing countries in particular fields, for example, exchange of reinsurance;

(v) The strengthening of insurance markets in countries undergoing transition to a market economy.

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/6 (Prog.14/Add.1)
9 September 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme 14. Trade expansion, export promotion and service sector development

Addendum

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1(1987)).

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. This addendum covers subprogrammes 7 to 10 of revised programme 14, Trade expansion, export promotion and service sector development, which relate to activities implemented by the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT previously covered in subprogrammes 10 to 13 of former programme 13, International trade.

---

* After adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, the complete revised medium-term plan will be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1).

92-42786 3420g (E) 100992 130992

/...

4. These revisions have not been reviewed by the Joint Advisory Group, the intergovernmental body that reviews the International Trade Centre's work programme for submission to the governing bodies of UNCTAD and GATT.

5. The following text pertaining to the subprogrammes implemented by the International Trade Centre modifies paragraphs 13.71 to 13.77, 13.79, 13.81, 13.82, 13.84, 13.85, 13.88, 13.90 to 13.93 and 13.95 to 13.97 under former programme 13, which would be renumbered accordingly under revised programme 14. In view of the extensive revisions to some paragraphs, the texts of these paragraphs are presented below, replacing the narrative in the corresponding paragraphs of former programme 13.

SUBPROGRAMME 10. (NEW SUBPROGRAMME 7) INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS FOR TRADE PROMOTION AND EXPORT DEVELOPMENT

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 13.71 (new para. 14.54) Delete the reference to General Assembly resolution S-18/3.

Paragraphs 13.72-13.77 (new paras. 14.55-14.57) Replace paragraphs 13.72 to 13.77 with the following:

"14.55 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

"(a) To strengthen national capacity for formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of appropriate national trade promotion and export development plans, strategies and programmes;

"(b) To improve the organization, management and orientation of government and business institutions in order to enhance their ability to formulate and implement trade promotion and export development programmes;

"(c) To create and enhance institutional capacity for trade promotion and export development in the relevant national and regional institutions in providing specialized trade promotion services to the business community.

"In pursuing the above objectives priority attention will be given to export development in least developed countries and to the development of human resources in all aspects of the subprogramme.

"(b) Course of action of the secretariat

"14.56 In working towards the achievement of the above objectives, the secretariat of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT will contribute to:

"(a) Identification of trade promotion and export development potentials, constraints and technical cooperation needs in the light of national development goals, priorities and policy framework;

"(b) Assistance to Governments in the preparation of specific trade promotion programmes and identification of technical cooperation that would be needed in the implementation of such programmes;

"(c) Defining the role, status, structure, functions, resource requirements, operational system, work programme and programme management methods of government and business institutions involved in trade promotion and export development;

"(d) Assessment of current and emerging needs for specialized trade promotion services for the business community, appraisal of existing institutional capacity to provide these services and their development requirements; and a strategy to strengthen such technical institutional capacity in a systematic manner within the framework of a technical cooperation programme;

"(e) Formulation of subprogramme cooperation packages to meet the special needs of least developed countries;

"(f) Human resource development as an integral component of all subprogramme services for the developing countries.

"14.57 In the light of the above, the secretariat of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT will pursue the following course of action:

"(a) In the area of trade promotion and export development:

"(i) Analysis of national trade promotion and export development objectives, priorities, constraints, potentials and strategic options and formulation of recommendations to Governments on suitable elements of trade promotion and export development strategies and programmes;

"(ii) Assessment of the special needs of the least developed countries and the economies in transition; and undertaking suitable programmes of cooperation to meet them on a priority basis;

"(b) In the area of institutional infrastructure:

"(i) Review of the status, structure, role, functions, financial and technical resources, orientation and work programmes of national institutions involved in trade promotion and export development, including trade representation services, and of chambers of commerce and business associations; analysis of their operational interface, positioning, cooperation and coordination;

"(ii) Recommendations of appropriate measures, including work programmes, technical management and operational guidelines, to optimize the contribution of the above institutions to the planning and implementation of trade promotion and export development programmes;

"(c) In the area of specialized trade promotion service: undertaking research and field studies on the evolution of appropriate methods and techniques of specialized trade promotion services and provide advisory assistance, specialized consultancy services, technical information, handbooks and manuals and operational guidelines to concerned national/regional institutions on export finance, export project development, costing and pricing, exports of small and medium enterprises, export-oriented joint ventures, legal aspects of international trade, export packaging, export quality management and trade promotion communications;

"(d) In the area of human resource development: the technical cooperation projects under this subprogramme will be formulated in close cooperation with the subprogramme on human resource development and will emphasize training in all relevant specialized areas."

SUBPROGRAMME 11. PRODUCT AND MARKET RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION (NEW SUBPROGRAMME 8)

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 13.79 (new para. 14.59) Replace subparagraph (a) by the following:

"(a) To establish or improve national and regional product and market development programmes in activities including trade information services at both the institutional (governmental and private sector) and

enterprise levels, with a view to assisting the export-oriented business community of the developing countries in taking advantage of expanded opportunities resulting from increased globalization and worldwide liberalization of international trade, the emergence of trading blocks, the transformation in Central and Eastern Europe, technological changes, etc."

In subparagraph (b), after "product" insert "and service".

In subparagraph (c), delete "indigenous".

Delete subparagraphs (d) and (g) and renumber subsequent subparagraphs accordingly.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

Paragraph 13.81 (new para. 14.61)

Replace paragraph 13.81 with the following:

"14.61 With respect to trade information, advisory services and training programmes will be provided with a view to the establishment and/or strengthening of existing trade information units and installing trade information systems, and to ensuring optimal efficiency and continuity of those units and systems in line with government priorities and users' requirements. Advice, methodological and didactic material and training will be provided on the management and the use of trade information and intelligence, particularly on methods of research, analysis, compilation, processing and dissemination. Emphasis will be given to improved knowledge on, and utilization of, relevant information sources and raising the cost-effectiveness of instruments and methods for data collection, processing and dissemination, including optimal use of commercial representation and other market contacts abroad, as well as modern data processing and communications technologies. The exchange of data and experience in areas of common interest will be fostered at the regional and interregional levels. The International Trade Centre will also play a direct role as information supplier."

Paragraph 13.82 (new para. 14.62)

In the first sentence, after "including:" insert "trade-related".

Also in the first sentence, after "appropriate" insert "product-specific".

In the second sentence, after "supply patterns;" insert "trade-related environmental matters;".

Paragraph 13.84 (new para. 14.64) In the fourth line, replace "new" with "diversified".

Paragraph 13.85 (new para. 14.65) In the second sentence, delete "exporting similar commodities, and to developing countries".

At the end of the second sentence, after "commodities" add "and to assisting them in the diversification of their export base".

SUBPROGRAMME 12. IMPORT OPERATIONS AND TECHNIQUES
(NEW SUBPROGRAMME 9)

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 13.88 (new para. 14.68) Replace paragraph 13.88 with the following:

"14.68 The overall objective of the subprogramme is to optimize the use of foreign exchange resources in imports and to enhance the contribution of imports to meeting the economic, social and environmental requirements of developing countries, with priority attention to least developed countries. More specifically, it aims:

"(a) To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the international procurement of imported goods and services;

"(b) To improve materials management and logistics operations for imported goods;

"(c) To increase the knowledge and skills of managers and staff responsible for import activities at all levels;

"(d) To improve access to, and use of, information required for import decision-making and operations;

"(e) To contribute to the streamlining of import procedures and facilities and support the process of import liberalization where applicable;

"(f) To contribute to the sourcing of imported goods and services from other developing countries, and to promote cooperation among developing countries in import management through the exchange of knowledge and information;

"(g) To enhance the contribution of imports to export development, at national and enterprise levels, in the fulfilment of the above objectives."

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

Paragraphs 13.90-13.93 (new paras. 14.70-14.73)

Replace paragraphs 13.90, to 13.93 with the following:

"14.70 Assistance to the private sector will focus on industrial and commercial enterprises, particularly small and medium-size firms and those importing inputs for export production. Assistance to the public sector will concentrate on public procurement agencies and on those authorities responsible for monitoring and control of public procurement and for overseeing import procedures at the national level.

"14.71 In the areas of import procurement and materials management and logistics, assistance will aim at strengthening methods and procedures as well as organizational aspects; supporting the adoption of procurement specifications based on international, regional and national standards; developing and applying management tools for use by importing organizations; promoting the joint purchase and/or transport of imported materials by business enterprises, particularly in industries competing in international markets; and strengthening the technical capabilities of business associations, supply management professional bodies, national consultancy services and technical support agencies in developing countries, enabling them to provide assistance to importing organizations and enterprises on a continuing basis.

"14.72 In the area of import training: organize on-the-job training programmes, courses, workshops and seminars for staff responsible for import management and operations, emphasizing training at sectoral levels; continue the development of technical materials, particularly those emphasizing problem-solving approaches to import management; and build up national capabilities for sustained import training including the strengthening of management training institutions in their import activities, curriculum development, training of trainers and the development and/or adaptation of training materials suited to local requirements.

"14.73 Import information will concern strengthening in-house import information units at enterprises and public sector organizations; developing the capabilities

of business associations to provide import-related information services to the business community; promoting access to relevant international databases and information services, including those dealing with environmental considerations in imports of hazardous goods and with supply sources of appropriate technologies; and operating an import intelligence service from the headquarters of the International Trade Centre providing supply market information on priority import products."

Paragraph 13.93 — Insert two new paragraphs after paragraph 13.93 as follows:

"14.74 Assistance in import procedures and facilities will involve: contributing to the simplification of import regulations and procedures and to making these more easy to observe by importers; promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of systems governing imports of inputs for export production; and helping importers to better follow import procedures so as to minimize administrative delays and costs.

"14.75 The International Trade Centre will disseminate information on the export capabilities of developing countries in order to promote sourcing of imports from competitive suppliers in the developing world. It will also support import cooperation among developing countries by promoting an exchange of know-how and information on imports through specialized workshops and information networks."

SUBPROGRAMME 13. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FOR TRADE PROMOTION
(NEW SUBPROGRAMME 10)

(a) Objectives

Paragraphs 13.95-13.97 (new paras. 14.77-14.79) — Replace paragraphs 13.95 to 13.97 with the following:

"14.77 The objectives of the subprogramme, which focus on the development of personnel qualifications in trade promotion and export development, are:

"(a) To build/expand national training capacities to enable developing countries to cope effectively with the increasing complexity of international business operations; to strengthen training institutions and networks in order to develop and pursue appropriate human resource development strategies for priority target groups/sectors; and to build advisory and consultancy skills to reinforce the impact of training services;

"(b) To assist national training institutions/networks in strengthening their research and development capability through innovative human resource development projects in the light of training needs and capacity analyses: development of new training materials, diagnostic tools and pedagogical methods;

"(c) To undertake selective training to develop key personnel in priority areas, with special emphasis on least developed countries and women entrepreneurs. The introduction of new approaches and techniques, in cooperation with national and regional institutions, will continue to be expanded."

"(b) Course of action of the secretariat

"14.78 In working towards the achievement of the above objectives, the secretariat of the International Trade Centre is adopting an integrated strategy that was recently formulated in the light of a comprehensive review of existing training approaches and activities. Based on this strategy, the following course of action will be pursued.

"14.79 The strengthening of training capacities will be emphasized, representing the thrust of activities. In addition to training institutions, initiatives will continue with other institutions such as chambers of commerce, business associations and networks to assist them in building in-career training capacities. More attention will be given to the selection of participating institutions, the identification of priority needs of key sectors and groups; formulation of effective trainer-training programmes and training support systems; improvement of managerial capabilities; development of relevant training materials; strengthening of links with the business sector, and expansion of the capacity of these institutions to provide advisory and consulting services. The enhancement of sustainability of results and the cultivation of partnership-type working relationships with participating institutions are two underlying factors in this strategy."

Paragraph 13.97 Insert three new paragraphs after paragraph 13.97 as follows and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"14.80 Training research and development activities will place increased emphasis on identifying and monitoring emerging human resource development needs and priorities in the light of a rapidly changing global environment; designing human resource development programmes to meet such needs; introducing improved training technologies and generating new training materials in close collaboration

with national training institutions. In order to improve the design and implementation of technical cooperation projects, increased efforts will be devoted to the development of diagnostic instruments such as the training capacity audit and consultancy capacity and needs analysis, and the systematic frameworks for training modules.

"14.81 With the expansion and upgrading of training capacities of national institutions, more direct training activities will be undertaken by local institutions. ITC's contribution will be selective, avoiding duplication, providing support and complementing national training efforts. Thus, it will offer programmes that draw on the Centre's unique international experience and know-how, launch pilot training events to demonstrate new approaches and technologies, and cater to special priority needs that cannot be adequately met with national resources. To foster the sharing of experiences and knowledge between training institutions, networking arrangements will be promoted further.

"14.82 To serve the above activities and meet increasing requests from developing countries, databases on training institutions and training opportunities will be strengthened. This will, among other things, provide a factual base for identifying viable prospects of networking among institutions."

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/6 (Prog. 15)
4 September 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme 15. Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1/(1987)).

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions proposed below modify the relevant parts of the narrative of programme 15, Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 and issued in document A/45/6/Rev.1. The proposed revisions reflect, in particular, relevant decisions of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and of UNCTAD at its eighth

---

* After adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, the complete revised medium-term plan will be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1)

92-42341 3678b (E) 080992 110992

/...

session. They will be reviewed by the Working Party of the Trade and Development Board on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget at its meeting from 31 August to 8 September 1992.

4. The following text modifies paragraphs 15.1, 15.3, 15.5, 15.7, 15.10 to 15.17, 15.19 and 15.20 of A/45/6/Rev.1. Where modifications of a paragraph are extensive, the deleted text appears in square brackets and the added text is underlined.

A. Programme

1. General orientation

Paragraph 15.1 — After the first sentence, add a new sentence as follows:

"The most recent mandate is derived from 'A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment', adopted by UNCTAD at its eighth session, which provides orientations for developing both fresh approaches to long-standing issues and insights for pursuing relevant new lines of work."

Paragraph 15.3 — Replace the first sentence with the following:

"The Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 1990 adopted the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, which was subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/206. The prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation in the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate growth and development in these countries and, in the process, to set them on the path of sustained growth and development. The Programme of Action provides an operational framework and identifies areas in which the least developed countries, their development partners and international organizations need to take urgent and concrete actions based on the principles of strengthened partnership and shared responsibility. The Programme of Action and General Assembly resolution 45/206 set out mechanisms for their implementation at the national, regional and global levels, and decided, inter alia, that UNCTAD shall continue to serve as the focal point for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action and its follow-up at the global level, providing support to follow-up at the national and regional levels, and that the Trade and Development Board shall consider during each of its annual spring sessions a review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action."

Renumber the remaining text of paragraph 15.3 as 15.4 and, in the last sentence, insert between "including" and

"human resources development" the following: "designing and implementing stable and growth-oriented macroeconomic framework".

At the end of the same sentence, delete "and management".

2. Overall strategy

Paragraph 15.5 At the end of the paragraph, add the following:

"in close cooperation with its member States, other intergovernmental organizations and institutions and, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations. In the implementation of the programme, the UNCTAD secretariat will be guided by the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, General Assembly resolution 45/206 endorsing the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and setting out the arrangements for its implementation, and the decisions taken by UNCTAD at its eighth session regarding the institutional adaptation, functions and methods of work of the organization."

Paragraph 15.7 In the first sentence, replace "including UNFPA, UNDP, UNDRO and the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, with those regional commissions which have regional monitoring responsibilities regarding the least developed countries, and with other international organizations" with "as well as other relevant international and regional organizations and institutions".

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 15.10 The paragraph should read as follows:

"The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 36/194, 40/205, 42/175, 42/177, 43/186, S-18/3, 44/241, 45/206, 46/156 and 46/206, [and] the Final Act of the seventh session of UNCTAD, paragraphs 106-153; the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries; the Cartagena Commitment, paragraphs 63, 66, 137, 220 (A), 221, 223; and principle 6 of the Rio Declaration."

Paragraph 15.11 At the end of the paragraph, replace "and serious debt-servicing problems" with "geographical handicaps and serious external sector problems".

Paragraph 15.12 The paragraph should read as follows:

"The objectives of the subprogramme are:

"(a) [To provide an adequate and internationally accepted minimum standard for the poor] To arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation in least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate growth and development in these countries and, in the process, to set them on the path of sustained growth and development;

"(b) [To identify and support major investment opportunities and priorities] To support development policies and priorities of the least developed countries;

"(c) [To mitigate as far as possible the adverse effects of natural disasters] To promote viable diversification of the economic structures of the least developed countries;

"(d) [To promote viable diversification of the economic structures of the least developed countries, including the creation of viable industries for processing raw materials, the development of integrated projects for the expansion of production and export, and the provision of adequate resources for overcoming supply bottlenecks] To promote human development by supporting effective population, health, education, training and employment policies;

"(e) [To ensure that aid is fully supportive of the development objectives of the least developed countries and that aid effectiveness is enhanced, inter alia, through improved coordination and the strengthening of country review meetings] To ensure that aid is fully supportive of the development objectives of the least developed countries and that aid effectiveness is enhanced, and that appropriate measures are implemented to alleviate external indebtedness of the least developed countries;

"(f) [To encourage positive measures for facilitating the expansion of trade opportunities of the least developed countries, including the promotion of subregional trade through technical and economic cooperation and integration for development] To encourage positive measures for facilitating the expansion of trade opportunities of the least developed countries, including

the promotion of subregional trade through technical and economic cooperation and integration for development;

"(g) [To strengthen the capacities of the least developed countries to establish and implement their own policies and programmes, and to address the structural rigidities and deficiencies of their economies] To mitigate as far as possible the adverse effects of unforeseen developments as well as of man-made and natural disasters;

"(h) To strengthen the capacities of the least developed countries to establish and implement their own policies and programmes, and to address the structural rigidities and deficiencies of their economies."

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

Paragraph 15.13 The paragraph should read as follows:

"As a follow-up to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 1990, concerted efforts will be made to promote, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the [decisions of the Second Conference] Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, and relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the eighth session of UNCTAD, the Trade and Development Board and other relevant intergovernmental forums. Those efforts will include:

"(a) [The identification and analysis of structural, institutional and policy constraints at the national and international levels impinging on the socio-economic development of the least developed countries] Analysing and comparing the experience and lessons learned from formulating and implementing the policy framework plans and the functioning of the country-level coordination arrangements;

"(b) [The formulation of proposals for national and international action for accelerating the socio-economic development of the least developed countries] Assessing, on a regular basis, the economic and social performance of the least developed countries, in the context of the international environment and domestic factors;

"(c) [Analysis, in cooperation with other international organizations, of international developments in aid flows, management and practices and the formulation of proposals to enhance the volume and quality of such flows in support of the development programmes of the least developed countries] Monitoring the implementation of the commitments and the measures contained in the Programme of Action;

"(d) [Provision of improved information flows to least developed countries] Reviewing the assistance of the development partners in responding to the special needs and circumstances of the least developed countries;

"(e) Formulating proposals for national and international action for accelerating the socio-economic development of the least developed countries;

"(f) Providing improved information flows to least developed countries."

Paragraph 15.14 Replace the third and fourth sentences with the following:

"The Least Developed Countries Annual Report and other reports containing up-to-date information and analysis on the least developed countries, including the basic data series, will be prepared and published on a regular basis with a view, inter alia, to promoting the systematic follow-up to the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels. Substantive inputs, as appropriate, will be made to the country review process and to the follow-up at the regional level, including the cluster meetings."

Paragraph 15.15 In the second sentence, after "improvement" add "and diversification".

Paragraph 15.16 The paragraph should read as follows:

"Support will be provided for technical cooperation activities, with emphasis on resource management; the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the least developed countries to design and implement appropriate macroeconomic and sectoral policies, as well as policies to promote and diversify trade and improve their capacity to benefit from existing preferential arrangements in their favour. In addition, as a follow-up to the Cartagena Commitment, the UNCTAD secretariat will:

"(a) Analyse the implications of changes in the list of the least developed countries by the General Assembly, for appropriate adjustments to the commitments contained in the Programme of Action in respect of targets and levels of official development assistance, as well as in respect of other relevant areas of international support;

"(b) Undertake analyses of measures necessitated by the developments affecting least developed countries that have occurred since the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (such as the Persian Gulf war, which has led to losses in export revenue and in receipts of remittance, costs for the absorption of returning workers and to temporary increases in import

costs; and the changes in countries in Eastern and Central Europe, which have led, in some cases, to losses of export markets, as well as of financial and technical assistance from those countries), focusing on the following areas of priority action: external debt, including multilateral debt, payment arrears and commercial debt; access to markets of products of least developed countries; and export diversification and compensatory financing."

SUBPROGRAMME 2. LAND-LOCKED AND ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

Land-locked and island developing countries

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 15.17 — Add a reference to General Assembly resolutions 45/202 and 46/212; and the Cartagena Commitment, paragraphs 162 and 222.

Paragraph 15.19 — Insert a new subparagraph (a) and renumber the other subparagraphs accordingly:

"(a) To promote implementation of specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of the land-locked developing countries".

Paragraph 15.20 — Insert a new subparagraph (a) and renumber the other subparagraphs accordingly:

"(a) To promote appropriate development policies to overcome the specific vulnerabilities of the island developing countries".

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/6 (Prog. 16)
15 September 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme 16. Environment

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1(1987)).

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions proposed below modify the relevant parts of the narrative of programme 16, Environment, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 and issued in document A/45/6/Rev.1. The revisions update the narrative on the basis of recent mandates adopted by the General Assembly and the UNEP Governing Council and reflect the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to the extent possible, at this time.

---

* After adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, the complete revised medium-term plan will be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1).

4. While the total number of subprogrammes remains the same (12), various existing subprogrammes have been renamed, some subprogrammes deleted or their contents included in other subprogrammes and some new subprogrammes or subprogramme parts have been introduced. These revisions and rearrangements of the existing text of programme 16 are introduced to realign the subprogrammes along the lines of Agenda 21 for ease of future reference and reporting.

5. In order to facilitate the review and consideration of the proposed revisions, the table below indicates the correlation between the new subprogrammes and the existing subprogrammes in A/45/6/Rev.1.

Proposed new subprogrammes	Corresponding subprogrammes in A/45/6/Rev.1
1. Protection of the atmosphere	1. Atmosphere
2. Environmental management of freshwater resources	2. Water
3. Environmental management of terrestrial ecosystems and their resources	3. Terrestrial ecosystems
4. Environmental management of oceans and coastal area management	4. Oceans
5. Environmental health, settlements and human welfare	5. Lithosphere 6. Human settlements and the environment 7. Human health and welfare (partly)
6. Environmental economics, accounting and management tools	No corresponding subprogramme
7. Toxic chemicals and waste management	7. Human health and welfare (partly)
8. Industry, energy and the environment	8. Energy, industry and transportation
9. Earthwatch data, information, assessment and early warning	9. Environmental assessment
10. Capacity-building for environmentally sound and sustainable development	No corresponding subprogramme
11. Environmental law, institutions and policies	10. Environmental management measures 11. Environmental awareness (partly)
12. Support to and cooperation for environmental action (including global and regional cooperation)	11. Environmental awareness (partly) 12. Global and regional cooperation

6. Owing to the timing of their preparation, these revisions have not been reviewed by the UNEP Governing Council, which is scheduled to meet in May 1993.

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme 16. Environment

1. General orientation

Paragraph 16.1 — At the end of the paragraph, add the following: "The UNEP mandate was again reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, in which it also decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on the twentieth anniversary of the 1972 Stockholm Conference. The outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development was bound to influence the structure, content and orientation of the programme of work of UNEP in the years to come. In its resolution 44/229, the General Assembly called for the review of the structure of the United Nations and its responsiveness in dealing with major environmental issues".

Paragraph 16.2 — Replace the paragraph with the following:

"16.2 The outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, confirmed that the environmental problems that will dominate the concerns of both developing and developed countries well into the twenty-first century will fall into three broad categories:

"(a) Environmentally unsound uses of natural resources that lessen the productive capacity of the biosphere;

"(b) Pollution that threatens human well-being, health and even life itself;

"(c) How to operationalize the firm linkage between environment and development into strategies for sustainable development that can help to combat poverty."

After paragraph 16.2, insert a new paragraph as follows and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"16.3 Agenda 21 is considered the centrepiece of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. It is a broad-based programme of action seeking to integrate environmental and developmental issues, and in this way becoming the conceptual framework for the transition to sustainable development. Agenda 21 approaches poverty issues in two interlinked strategies: one focusing attention essentially on improving access of the poor to the resources that they require for survival and development, and the other focused on the management

of natural resources. The challenge is to integrate these two focuses so that anti-poverty programmes have in them an element of resource management and, vice versa, that resource management programmes include an element of improved access to these resources by the poor. Agenda 21, typical of the subprogrammes described below, is closely interrelated. One chapter contributes to the total realization of the other, for example, capacity-building, technology transfer, science-based data and so on. The separation of the different chapters or subprogrammes is therefore for presentation purposes. The objectives of Agenda 21 are not reproduced in the text below, but remain the basis of work of the secretariat in its efforts to assist Governments, in concert with United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and others, in realizing the benefits of the Rio outcome."

Paragraph 16.10 (new para. 16.11)

In the first sentence, after "dissemination of information", insert "policy formulation".

In the third sentence of subparagraph (c) under the subheading "Environmental assessment", after "soil degradation" add "air and water quality".

Replace subheading "Environmental awareness and environmental training" with "Capacity-building, environmental awareness and training".

Under this subheading, add a new subparagraph (c) as follows:

"(c) The main purpose of environmental training is to assist countries, in particular developing countries, develop a body of professional cadres able to manage the environment and its natural resources in an integrated way, with the ultimate aim of achieving sustainable development."

Paragraph 16.11 (new para. 16.12)

At the end of the paragraph, add the following: "In addition, as indicated above, the structure of the programme has been rearranged to bring it in line with Agenda 21, the major outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development."

Paragraph 16.12 (new para. 16.13)

Replace paragraph 16.12 with the following:

"16.13 The programme on environment will consist of the following subprogrammes:

"Subprogramme 1. Protection of the atmosphere

"Subprogramme 2. Environmental management of freshwater resources

"Subprogramme 3. Environmental management of terrestrial ecosystems and their resources

"Subprogramme 4. Environmental management of oceans and coastal area management

"Subprogramme 5. Environmental health, settlements and human welfare

"Subprogramme 6. Environmental economics, accounting and management tools

"Subprogramme 7. Toxic chemicals and waste management

"Subprogramme 8. Industry, energy and the environment

"Subprogramme 9. Earthwatch data, information, assessment and early warning

"Subprogramme 10. Capacity-building for environmentally sound and sustainable development

"Subprogramme 11. Environmental law, institutions and policies

"Subprogramme 12. Support to and cooperation for environmental action (including global and regional cooperation)

Paragraph 16.13 (new para. 16.14)

Replace paragraph 16.13 with the following:

"16.14 Subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 are designated high priority."

Paragraph 16.14 (new para. 16.15)

In the second line, replace the words "modification following the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992" with "further modifications based on the decisions of the General Assembly concerning the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including, in particular, the institutional arrangements for the follow-up of the Conference, as well as relevant decisions and recommendations of the UNEP Governing Council. These modifications would be submitted to the General Assembly in 1993 together with the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995".

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. ATMOSPHERE

Title of subprogramme For "ATMOSPHERE" read "PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE".

Paragraph 16.15 (new para. 16.16) Add reference to General Assembly resolution 44/228; Agenda 21, chapters 9 and 14 (c); the Rio Declaration, Principles 7, 14, 18 and 19; the Convention on Climate Change; and Governing Council decisions 16/26 and 16.61.

Paragraph 16.18 (new para. 16.19) In the first sentence, after "UNEP" insert "as the secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol" and after "coordinates the activities" insert "of the Parties to the Convention and Protocol".

In the third sentence, after "System" insert "(GEMS)" and after "such as" insert "the World Climate Programme and".

Paragraph 16.19 (new para. 16.20) Replace paragraph 16.19 with the following:

"16.20 The role that increasing concentrations of the greenhouse gases play in modifying the Earth's climate is also regularly assessed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change established jointly in 1988 by UNEP and WMO. Prior to 1988, such assessments were made by UNEP, WHO and the International Council of Scientific Unions, the organizations responsible for implementing the World Climate Programme. A series of international conferences on the issue of climate change, held at Villach, Austria, under the World Climate Programme, had identified the issue as perhaps the most serious current environmental problem to be faced. In order to meet the challenge of future climate change, the General Assembly established the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to elaborate a framework convention on climate change. The framework convention was adopted by the Committee at its session in 1992 and was opened for signature at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. It remains open for signature in New York till June 1993."

Paragraph 16.20 (new para. 16.21) In the first sentence, replace "World Climate Impact Studies Programme" with "World Climate Impact Assessment and Response Strategies Programme".

In the second sentence, replace "'policy exercises' in preparation for climate change" with "country studies on climate change and its impact".

In the last sentence, after "undertaken" insert "by GEMS".

Paragraph 16.22 (new para. 16.23) In subparagraph (b), at the end of the sentence under (i), insert "and of the costs of dealing with climate change".

Replace the text under (v) with the following:

"(v) Making available pertinent scientific information and programme results to the international community to enable it to address climate change issues".

Add a new subparagraph (c) as follows:

"(c) Actions to support the implementation of the Framework Convention on Climate Change presently open for signature in New York: (i) responding to requirements of the Scientific Advisory Committee or (other) mechanisms established under the Framework Convention for obtaining scientific and technical information for the implementation of the treaty; and (ii) ensuring the effective implementation of the Framework Convention by assisting developing countries to undertake country studies of the sources of greenhouse gases; of the impacts of climate change and adaptive responses; and of the costs of dealing with climate change, including the identification of technological needs for greenhouse gas abatement."

SUBPROGRAMME 2. WATER

Title of subprogramme For "WATER" read "ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES".

Paragraph 16.23 (new para. 16.24) Add reference to General Assembly resolution 44/228; Agenda 21, chapters 14, 18 and 22; the Rio Declaration, Principles 2 and 27; and Governing Council decision 16/23.

Paragraph 16.28 (new para. 16.29) In subparagraph (a), add the following: "(iv) further elaboration of the concept of environmental security: principles for the sustainable use of natural resources."

SUBPROGRAMME 3. TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS

Title of subprogramme For "TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS" read "ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS AND THEIR RESOURCES".

Paragraph 16.29 (new para. 16.30) Add reference to General Assembly resolution 44/228; and Agenda 21, chapters 10-16, 31, 35 and 36.

Paragraph 16.31 (new para. 16.32) At the end of the paragraph, add the following: "The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development recommended the commencement of negotiations for a convention on drought and desertification to be ready for signature by June 1994. Such a legal instrument would help re-focus attention to this serious environmental problem."

Paragraph 16.32 (new para. 16.33)

In the first sentence, replace "11 million" with "17 million".

Paragraph 16.35 (new para. 16.36)

At the end of the paragraph, add the following: "The Convention on Biodiversity, negotiated and concluded as one of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, contains internationally agreed measures, which, if implemented, would greatly reduce the impoverishment of global biodiversity."

Paragraph 16.37 (new para. 16.38)

In the second sentence, replace the words "pesticide management" with "agricultural input management, increased utilization of biotechnology for pest control,".

In the same sentence, after "with safer products", insert ", use of manure as a plant nutrient,".

At the end of the paragraph, add ", all of which will assist Governments to attain an increased level of human and environmental health".

Paragraph 16.39 (new para. 16.40)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.39 with that of paragraph 16.51 as follows:

"16.40 There are still serious gaps in our quantitative knowledge of the natural element cycling between different spheres of the Earth and the scale on which bio-geochemical cycles are affected by human activities. The extraction of minerals and fossil fuels, whether on an industrial or a small scale, is threatening soils and ground and surface waters over great areas. The dumping of hazardous wastes is causing increased environmental hazards in developing countries. The use of geothermal resources, which could reduce the burning of fossil fuels, is limited to a very few countries."

Paragraph 16.40 (new para. 16.41)

At the end of subparagraph (h), add ", in particular through the establishment of pilot demonstration sites and training and education programmes in developing countries".

Add a new subparagraph (i) containing the text of old paragraphs 16.52 and 16.53 as follows:

"(i) To maintain the life supporting functions of the upper crust of the Earth, to achieve environmentally sound use of its mineral, water and thermal resources, and to ensure safe disposal of hazardous wastes. Mainly research-oriented activities will continue through cooperation with the UNESCO International Geological Correlation Programme, the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment and the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme."

Paragraph 16.41 (new para. 16.42)

At the end of subparagraph (b), add "(viii) assisting Member States in elaborating an international convention to combat desertification as envisaged under Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

In subparagraph (f), after "(i) assisting Governments in" insert "the preparation of biodiversity country studies,".

Add a new subparagraph (i) containing the text of paragraph 16.54 as follows:

"(i) The approach taken is to support the integration of data from geology, oceanography, ecology, meteorology and chemistry and to work towards the application of scientific results in environmental management tasks. This will be done through the organization of meetings, workshops and training courses, as well as by creating awareness through relevant publications. Attention will also be given to environmentally sound exploitation of mineral and fossil fuels, protection and use of deep acquifers, safe underground disposal of hazardous wastes and to the development of geothermal energy for sustaining the development process."

SUBPROGRAMME 4. OCEANS

Title of subprogramme For "OCEANS" read "ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF OCEANS AND COASTAL AREAS MANAGEMENT".

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 16.42 (new para. 16.43)

Add reference to General Assembly resolution 44/228; Agenda 21, chapters 17 and 38.22; the Rio Declaration, Principles 2, 13, 14 and 17 to 19; and Governing Council decision 16/23.

Paragraph 16.47 (new para. 16.48)

In the first sentence, replace "11" with "12".

Paragraph 16.48 (new para. 16.49)

In subparagraph (a), after "protection and" insert "integrated".

Paragraph 16.49 (new para. 16.50)

At the end of subparagraph (b), add a new (iv) as follows: "(iv) participating in sea-level rise studies".

SUBPROGRAMME 5. LITHOSPHERE
SUBPROGRAMME 6. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT
SUBPROGRAMME 7. HUMAN HEALTH AND WELFARE

Replace the titles of subprogrammes 5, 6 and 7 and their related texts in paragraphs 16.50 to 16.67 as follows:

SUBPROGRAMME 5. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, SETTLEMENTS AND HUMAN WELFARE

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 16.50 (new para. 16.51)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.50 with the following:

"16.51 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 44/224 and 44/228; resolution I of the Governing Council at its session of special character of 1982, section III, paragraphs 2 (a), (d), (g) and (i), and section IV, and Council decisions 10/15, 10/16, 11/17, paragraph 4 (c), 14/3, 14/13, 14/27, 14/32, 15/1, section (iv) (h), 15/9, 15/18 and 16/9; and Agenda 21, chapters 6 and 7. Also relevant are Agenda 21, chapters 3, 5, 16 B-D, 18 D-E and the Rio Declaration, Principles 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 14 and 17.

Paragraph 16.51 (new para. 16.52)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.51 (transferred to new paragraph 16.40 above) with the text of paragraph 16.57 as follows:

"16.52 Rapid urban growth, the uncontrolled expansion of slums and squatter settlements, and the inadequacy of sanitation, water supply and other basic services continue to pose a severe challenge, which many countries, especially in the developing regions, are unable to meet satisfactorily. Because the challenge of controlled and planned urban growth is not being met, the harmony that should exist between the man-made and the natural environment deteriorates as urban sprawl expands into prime agricultural land and the urban wastes continue to pollute the air, water and soil on which life depends."

Paragraph 16.52 (new para. 16.53)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.52 (transferred to new paragraph 16.41 (i) above) with the text of paragraph 16.58 as follows:

"16.53 The extent of death and destruction caused by disasters is increasing. The communities affected cannot cope alone and require immediate relief from national and international organizations. One effective means of reducing the adverse consequences of disasters is by ensuring that communities are prepared for them through organizational measures such as contingency plans for the evacuation of people, the provision of food, water and medical care, and early warning systems."

Paragraph 16.53 (new para. 16.54)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.53 (transferred to new paragraph 16.41 (i) above) with the text of paragraph 16.62 as follows:

"16.54 The effects of environmental pollutants, in particular those caused by chemicals, are of increasing concern in all countries. Although industrialized countries generally have well developed programmes to assess and control the effects of pollution, most of the developing countries have no adequate programmes in place. A comprehensive approach to the management of pollutants is needed to cope with the pervasive nature of most of them."

Paragraph 16.54 (new para. 16.55)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.54 (transferred to new paragraph 16.42 (i) above) with the text of paragraph 16.63 as follows:

"16.55 Communicable diseases are major causes of the high rate of sickness, disability and death in developing countries. These diseases include acute diarrhoea, vector-borne parasitic diseases such as malaria, schistosomiasis, filariasis and trypanosomiasis, vector-borne viral diseases such as Japanese encephalitis and dengue, and zoonotic and food-borne diseases. Today, for example, over 2 billion people in developing countries are at risk of malaria infection; 200 million are infected with schistosomiasis. Further, in Africa alone 50 million are at risk with onchocerciasis and another 50 million are exposed to human sleeping sickness."

Paragraph 16.55 (new para. 16.56)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.55 with the text of paragraph 16.64 as follows:

"16.56 Progress in improving the quality of the working environment has been slow and uneven between countries at various stages of development and, within countries, between various branches and categories of workers. This is primarily because of the absence in many countries of a general policy for improving the working environment, as an integral part of the national development strategy, in a context of rapid tech ological change."

Paragraph 16.56 (new para. 16.57)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.56 (transferred to new paragraph 16.51 above) with the text of paragraph 16.65 slightly revised (with deletions in brackets and additions underlined), as follows:

"16.57 The subprogramme addresses three areas, chemical, physical and biological safety, and will be implemented in the main by the relevant United Nations agencies, ILO, UNICEF, FAO and others. The UNEP role will be to provide the necessary catalysis and to [act as coordinator during programme] participate actively during programme planning and implementation, acting through the existing mechanisms, mainly the ILO/UNEP/WHO International Programme on Chemical Safety and the FAO/UNEP/WHO Panel of Experts on Environmental Management for Vector Control."

Paragraph 16.57 (new para. 16.58) — Replace the text of paragraph 16.57 (transferred to new paragraph 16.52) with the text of paragraph 16.59 and the text of subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 16.66 as follows:

"16.58 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

"(a) To promote environmentally sound planning and management of human settlements;

"(b) To promote the implementation of environmentally based policies and measures for preparedness, prevention and mitigation of damage caused by natural and man-made disasters, taking into account the objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

"(c) To enhance national capabilities to assess and deal with hazards of environmental pollution;

"(d) To enhance national capabilities for environmental control of disease agents of chemical and biological origin in selected developing countries;

"(e) To strengthen the capacity of countries to design and implement policies and programmes for the improvement of the working environment."

Paragraphs 16.61 to 16.66 — Delete paragraphs 16.61 to 16.66.

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

Paragraph 16.58 (new para. 16.59) — Replace the text of paragraph 16.58 (transferred to new paragraph 16.53) with the text of paragraph 16.60 (revised with deletions in brackets and additions underlined) and subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 16.67 as follows:

"16.59 The UNEP course of action for 1992-1997 consists of:

"(a) Human settlements planning and management: the UNEP strategy will be carried out in close cooperation with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and WHO. The strategy includes (i) assessment of environmental conditions in human settlements; (ii) application of environmental guidelines for planning and managing human settlements in selected countries and the development of resource-friendly infrastructures for sustainable development; (iii) research, training and dissemination of information on environmentally sound human settlements planning and management; and (iv) demarcation of pilot low-waste spaces in selected densely settled areas;

"(b) Community preparedness for natural and man-made disasters: [in accordance with Governing Council decision 11/7, UNEP gives low priority to activities under this item] ways and means will be elaborated to strengthen the international cooperation and the capacity of the United Nations in the monitoring assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergency. In that respect, in accordance with Governing Council resolutions 15/9 and 16/9, efforts will be made for the establishment, on an experimental basis, of the United Nations centre for urgent environmental assistance. UNEP will continue to promote the adoption of environmentally based measures further to develop community preparedness and disseminate information in this regard in cooperation with UNDRO;

"(c) Hazards of pollution: UNEP will continue to work closely with other United Nations agencies and international organizations, in particular in the context of the International Programme on Chemical Safety in implementing the following activities: (i) assessment and evaluation of the potential health and environmental hazards of selected pollutants; (ii) wide dissemination of evaluated information on such hazards; and (iii) support for strengthening the capacity of national institutions and personnel for assessment, prevention and control of pollution hazards at the country level;

"(d) Environmental aspects of communicable diseases: (i) promoting education, training and transfer of acquired knowledge; (ii) facilitating studies on the epidemiological surveillance of communicable diseases; (iii) facilitating studies on the biology, ecology and behaviour of disease-causing agents of chemical and biological origin; (iv) undertaking field demonstrations of ecologically sound methods and strategies for pest and vector control; (v) strengthening national capabilities

for environmental management of carriers of disease-causing agents; and (vi) developing and testing, wherever feasible, site-specific guidelines for the control of disease-causing agents for wider application at the national or regional levels;

"(e) The working environment: UNEP strategy will be centred mainly on coordinating activities undertaken by the United Nations system aimed at the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases and the improvement of the physical, mental and social well-being of workers."

Insert two new subprogrammes 6 and 7 as follows and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"SUBPROGRAMME 6. ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS, ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT TOOLS

"(a) Objectives

"16.60 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 42/186, 42/187, 44/227 and 44/228; Governing Council decisions 16/2, SS.II/2; Agenda 21, chapters 8 (C) and (D), 38.22 (b), (c), (i) and (m); and the Rio Declaration, Principles 12, 16 and 17.

"16.61 While data on the physical environment and changes therein are increasingly becoming available, these are generally not analysed from the standpoint of their bearing on economic and social well-being, for example, productivity, output, employment, income, trade and so on. Moreover, the environmental impact of economic policies are not ascertained to determine, for example, how best to harness the market mechanisms and economic incentives for environmental management. Moreover, the setting of environmental standards or regulations often lacks proper analysis of economic efficiency, social costs and benefit evaluation. Further, the scope of fiscal policy instruments of taxes, charges, fees and marketable permits to generate public finance for environmental management often remains unexplored.

"16.62 The objectives of the subprogrammes are to make available guidance, information, training and technical cooperation on the analytical methods and procedures required to ascertain the socio-economic significance of environmental change, and to clarify the economic basis of environmental policies, on valuation of environmental resources and on economic, sectoral and other policy adjustments needed for environmental management and sustainable development.

"(b) Course of action of the secretariat

"16.63 The course of action for 1992-1997 includes:

"(a) Advancement, synthesis, dissemination, application and promotion of analytical tools to improve environmental and developmental policy formulation, programme and project design and to implement an integrated approach. The methods of environmental impact assessment, environmental and social cost-benefit analysis, environmental accounting, cost-effectiveness analysis and integrated environmental economic and physical planning will receive particular attention;

"(b) Conceptual and empirical research and information dissemination in respect of:

"(i) Valuation of environmental resources and changes therein with a view to guiding investment allocation for environmental rehabilitation;

"(ii) Application of environmental impact assessment at policy, programme and regional levels, and in conjunction with socio-economic impact assessment;

"(iii) Benefit valuation of environmental policies and their cost-effective design and implementation;

"(iv) Use of economic policy instruments for environmental management and assessment of environmental impacts of macroeconomic and sectoral policies.

"(c) Training personnel from the developing countries and countries in transition to market economies in the socio-economic analytical tools and policies for environmental management;

"(d) Strengthening of institutional capacities in the developing countries for integration of environment and development objectives in development policies, planning, projects and administration.

"SUBPROGRAMME 7. TOXIC CHEMICALS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

"(a) Objectives

"16.64 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolution 44/228; Governing Council decisions 16/30, 31, 35; and Agenda 21, chapters 19, 20, 22 and 38.22.

"16.65 Whilst the contemporary world and its development greatly benefits from the development and use of chemicals, many of them, especially toxic chemicals, can have a variety of adverse effects on human health and the environment. Sound management of such chemicals can have a variety of adverse effects on human health and the environment. Sound management of such chemicals is a prerequisite. Human economic activities create a vast amount of wastes, the lack of proper management

of which has resulted in human health and environmental damage. International trade in chemicals and wastes, unless properly monitored and controlled, has the potential of posing a serious threat to human health and the environment, particularly in developing countries.

"16.66 The effects of environmental pollutants, in particular those caused by chemicals, are of increasing concern in all countries. Although industrialized countries generally have well developed programmes to assess and control the effects of pollution, most of the developing countries have no adequate programmes in place. A comprehensive approach, with a particular focus on prevention, to the management of polluting chemicals is needed to cope with the pervasive nature of most of them.

"16.67 Compilation and dissemination of information on the extent and seriousness of human health and environmental impacts of pollution is of major importance. The complexity of chemical pollution and the pervasiveness of chemicals necessitate strong institutional cooperation for the environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals and wastes.

"16.68 The main objective of the subprogramme is to promote environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals and wastes through (a) elaboration of internationally harmonized hazard and risk assessment of chemicals and wastes; (b) development and implementation of internationally agreed management actions with a priority on the reduction in toxics used and on waste minimization; (c) assisting in the elaboration and implementation of national management schemes and controls; (d) compilation and dissemination of relevant information on potential risks, control actions, including national and international controls; and (e) provision of technical, legal and institutional assistance to Governments.

"(b) Course of action of the secretariat

"16.69 The course of action for 1992-1997 includes:

"(a) Elaboration and acceleration of internationally harmonized hazard and risk assessment of chemicals and wastes;

"(b) Development and implementation of internationally agreed management actions, including the prevention of illegal traffic in toxic chemicals and wastes;

"(c) Assisting in the elaboration and implementation of national management schemes and controls, including risk reduction measures;

"(d) Compilation and dissemination of relevant information on potential hazards and risks, control actions, including national and international controls;

"(e) Toxic chemical use reduction and waste minimization through an overall cleaner production approach;

"(f) Provision of technical, legal and institutional assistance to Governments.

"16.70 The activities under this subprogramme will be implemented mainly by the relevant United Nations agencies such as WHO, ILO, UNICEF, FAO and so on. The role of UNEP will be to provide the necessary catalysis and to act as coordinator during programme implementation, acting through the existing mechanisms, mainly the ILO/UNEP/WHO International Programme on Chemical Safety, the FAO/UNEP joint programme for the operation of prior informed consent, and the FAO/UNESCO/WHO Panel on Environmental Management for Vector Control, or any other international mechanisms, which may be agreed upon for environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals and wastes."

SUBPROGRAMME 8. ENERGY, INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORTATION

Title of subprogramme

For "ENERGY, INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORTATION" read "INDUSTRY, ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT".

Paragraph 16.68 (new para. 16.71)

Add reference to General Assembly resolution 44/228; Governing Council decision 16/25; and Agenda 21, chapters 2 (A), 2 (B), 7 (G), 9 (B1, B2, B3), 14 (K), 16 (E), 30, 31 (B) and 34.

Paragraph 16.74 (new para. 16.77)

Transfer subparagraph (c) from paragraph 16.66 to new paragraph 16.77 as a new subparagraph (b) and renumber the remaining subparagraphs accordingly:

"16.77 The more specific objectives of the subprogramme are:

"(a) To encourage the integration of environmental considerations in the planning, production and use of energy;

"(b) To strengthen the capacity of countries to design and implement policies and programmes for the improvement of the working environment;

"(c) To integrate environmental considerations into industrial development and to strengthen national policies, institutions and capabilities for managing industrial activities in a sustainable way;

"(d) To promote the definition of environmental guidelines to be applied to the formulation of national and regional transportation plans and to help facilitate the reduction of negative environmental health impacts of transport systems, especially urban transport systems."

Paragraph 16.75 (new para. 16.78)

Add to paragraph 16.75 a new subparagraph (d) as follows:

"(d) Tourism: (i) developing guidelines to integrate environmental considerations into national tourism development policies and plans; (ii) providing technical assistance and training on these issues".

Transfer subparagraph (c) of paragraph 16.67 and insert it as new subparagraph (e) as follows:

"(e) The working environment: UNEP strategy will be centred mainly on coordinating activities undertaken by the United Nations system aimed at the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases and the improvement of the physical, mental and social well-being of workers."

SUBPROGRAMME 9. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Title of subprogramme

For "ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT" read "EARTHWATCH DATA, INFORMATION ASSESSMENT AND EARLY WARNING".

Paragraph 16.76 (new para. 16.79)

Add reference to General Assembly resolutions 44/221, 44/228 and 46/217; Governing Council decisions 16/23 and 16/25; and Agenda 21, chapters 31, 35, 38 and 40.

Paragraph 16.78 (new para. 16.81)

In the second sentence, replace the text under (iii) with the following: "(iii) the Global Environment Monitoring Systems, which coordinate environmental monitoring and assessment activities through the United Nations system; and (iv) the Global Resource Information Database, which is a computerized data management system and makes use of geographic information system technology to provide geo-referenced data and analytical support to environmental assessments useful for management and planning."

Paragraph 16.82 (new para. 16.85)

In subparagraph (c), delete the text under (iii) and (iv) and renumber (v) and (vi) accordingly.

Add new subparagraphs (d) and (e) as follows:

"(d) UNEP's Global Resource Information Database (GRID) will (i) provide data archiving, cataloging services for thousands of environmental, geo-referenced data sets; (ii) strengthen its network through the establishment of cooperating, GRID-compatible centres in appropriate governmental and intergovernmental bodies. There are currently seven major centres with differing regional and data realm responsibilities: GRID-Nairobi and GRID-Geneva, supported under the GRID umbrella project; GRID-Bangkok supported through an agreement with the Asian Institute of Technology; GRID-Arendal (Norway), GRID-Sioux Falls (United States of America), GRID-Tsukuba (Japan) and GRID-Warsaw (Poland), supported from national or donor sources; setting up of other national centres (in Brazil, Denmark,

Germany and the Russian Federation) and centres within specialized agencies (e.g. FAO) is under negotiation. It is expected that by 1997 there will be some 50 operational cooperating centres, linked by high-speed telecommunications and serving as regional or sectoral data exchange, and training support centres; and
(iii) contribute to the production of environmental assessments through provision of expertise and access to GIS technology for sectoral experts working at the centres within the network;

(e) UNEP will, in the overall framework of Earthwatch, pay more attention to early warning activities, for example, (i) in relation to chemicals, contaminants and pollutants: the development of guidelines or quantitative limitations that it is desirable not to exceed in order to obviate adverse effects on human health and/or ecosystems; and (ii) in relation to renewable resources: the testing of the feasibility of developing an early warning capability in one or more natural resource sectors (determining the degree of change)."

SUBPROGRAMME 10. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Title of subprogramme

For "ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES" read "CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT".

(a) Objectives

Paragraphs 16.83 to 16.87 (new paragraphs 16.86-16.88)

Transfer the text of paragraphs 16.83 to 16.87, revised as relevant, to subprogramme 11 below and replace them with the text under the following new paragraphs:

"16.86 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 44/228; and Agenda 21, chapters 35 to 38.

"16.87 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

"(a) To strengthen analytical, policy and institutional capacities of countries for environmental management and sustainable development through technical advice and cooperation;

"(b) To advance skill formation and human resource development in analytical, technical,

administrative and other aspects of environmental management of the development process;

"(c) To advance collaboration between developed and developing countries and among developing countries themselves, for decision-making on environmental assessment and management through information networking, transfer of technology and joint initiatives."

"(b) Course of action of the secretariat

"16.88 The course of action for 1992-1997 includes:

"(a) In collaboration with the concerned Governments and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including regional commissions and UNDP, operationalizing a process by means of which environmental considerations will be integrated into the country programming process, including preparation of environmental overviews of countries, major projects and programmes, training of staff, strengthening of human and institutional capabilities for decision-making and administration for sustainable development at national and regional levels;

"(b) Cooperation with the World Bank and IMF, in providing policy advice and assistance in response to the countries' needs for sustainable development and environmental management;

"(c) Promotion of the use of environmental impact assessment, including activities carried out under the United Nations specialized agencies and regional commissions, and in connection with significant economic development projects or activities;

"(d) Provision to countries and institutions of information and training on environmental screening of technologies and on use of environmentally sound technologies, making available advice and assistance to countries, information networking and organization of consultative, expert and intergovernmental meetings to facilitate transfer of environmentally sound technologies among countries;

"(e) Promoting the integration of environmental management in the curricula of the universities and national and regional institutions, at various levels and in various disciplines;

"(f) Organization of technical training courses and seminars in sectoral and overall environmental management for various target groups from the developing countries and from countries in transition to market economies;

"(g) Strengthening of human resource and institutional capacities in the developing countries in policies, planning and procedures for environmental management and sustainable development;

"(h) Provision of advice, assistance, training and technical cooperation to assist countries in design and implementation of environmental regulations, keeping in view their implications for development."

SUBPROGRAMME 11. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Title of subprogramme

For "ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS" read "ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, INSTITUTIONS, AND POLICIES".

(a) Objectives

Paragraphs 16.88 to 16.94 new paragraphs 16.89-16.92)

Delete paragraph 16.88, transfer texts of paragraphs 16.89 to 16.94 to subprogramme 12 below (as new paragraphs 106 and 107 respectively) and replace with the following paragraphs:

"16.89 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 3436 (XXX), 44/207, 44/226, 44/228 and 44/229; resolution I of the Governing Council at its session of a special character in 1982, section IV; Council decisions 15/2, 15/14, 15/30 to 15/37, 15/39 and 15/41; SS.II/3; 16/23, 16/25, 16/30, 16/35 and 16/40-16/43; Agenda 21, chapters 8, 29 and 38; and the Rio Declaration, Principles.

"16.90 Laws, together with appropriate institutional arrangements, anchor the development of national, regional and global environmental management for sustainable development. There is already a growing list of conventions and protocols covering environmental

issues, including the seas, wildlife, the ozone layer and transboundary movements of hazardous wastes. The intergovernmental negotiations on the Global Convention for the Conservation and Rational Use of Biological Diversity and on the Framework Convention on Climate Change were concluded in May 1992 and both Conventions are open for signature till June 1993. Guidelines and principles have been developed on other important environmental issues, such as shared natural resources, offshore mining and drilling, environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, environmental impact assessment, marine pollution from land-based sources and chemicals in international trade. In many areas, additional work during the medium-term plan period should be undertaken where authorized by the Governing Council. Such areas include: (a) conservation and rational use of biological diversity; (b) climate change; (c) marine pollution from land-based sources; and (d) chemicals in international trade. Environmental impact assessment and environmental emergencies could also be included in such areas. In order to build up the national capability of developing countries, the technical assistance programme for providing developing countries with assistance in the development of national environmental legislation and institutions, as well as training in the development and implementation of legislation should be further strengthened. Collection and dissemination of information on national environmental legislation and international environmental legal instruments should also be enhanced.

"16.91 The objective of the subprogramme is to promote international and national environmental law through the development of legal instruments, including agreements and treaties, guidelines, goals and principles in priority areas, and to enhance the national legislative and institutional capabilities for environmentally sound and sustainable development through, inter alia, the compilation and provision of factual information on international and national law and administration, the provision of legal, technical and institutional policy advice, and the implementation of relevant training activities for human resource development.

"(b) Course of action of the secretariat

"16.92 The course of action for 1992-1997 includes:

"(a) Development of global and regional environmental principles, conventions and other legal instruments, such as guidelines and codes of conduct;

"(b) Improvement of effectiveness of international legal instruments and verification of their implementation;

"(c) Provision of technical, legal and institutional advice to Governments, in establishing and enhancing their national legal and institutional frameworks;

"(d) Compilation and dissemination of information on international legal instruments and national environmental law and institutions;

"(e) Implementation of relevant training courses and other relevant activities for human resource development in this field."

SUBPROGRAMME 12. GLOBAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

Title of subprogramme

For "GLOBAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION" read "SUPPORT TO AND COOPERATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION (INCLUDING GLOBAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION)".

(a) Objectives

Paragraph 16.95 (new para 16.93)

Replace the text of paragraph 16.95 with the following:

"16.93 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 38/88, 36/192, 42/187, paragraph 14, 42/189 and 45/253; Governing Council decisions 10/4, 10/26, 11/7, part three (sections A and B), and part eight, 11/8, 11/9, 12/15, 12/16 A and C, 13/6, 13/19-13/22, 14/1C, 14/13, 14/21, 15/7, paragraph 2, 15/12, 15/14, 15/15, paragraph 6, 15/17, 15/23 C, paragraph 3, 16/7 and 16/15 A; and Agenda 21, chapters 24 to 29.

After paragraph 16.95, insert a new section A and a new paragraph as follows:

"A. Global and regional cooperation for environmental action

"16.94 The General Assembly in its resolution 44/228 mandated the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, inter alia, to elaborate strategies and measures to halt and reverse the effects of environmental degradation in the context of increased international efforts to promote sustainable and environmentally sound development in all countries and affirmed that the promotion of economic growth in developing countries is essential to addressing problems of environmental degradation. Although the primary focus of Agenda 21 is the countries, it provides the strategic thrust and guiding framework to improve the programming process of international organizations as they strive to be partners with countries in the quest for sustainable development. The United Nations system, because of its experience and wealth of specialized resources, is uniquely placed to assist Governments in establishing more effective patterns of economic and social development with a view to achieving the objectives of Agenda 21 and sustainable development."

Paragraph 16.97 In the first sentence, delete "technical and".

(b) Course of action of the secretariat

Paragraph 16.100 In the first sentence, after "mechanism" add "and other financial mechanisms identified in Agenda 21, such as regional banks".

Modify the content and order of subparagraphs (a) to (f) and add two new subparagraphs as follows:

"(a) To assist in developing and improving national and related subregional and regional capacities and capabilities for sustainable development;

"(b) To facilitate the participation of developing countries in international environmental forums, programmes and agreements;

"(c) To assist developing countries in identifying and evaluating their most serious environmental problems and in formulating programmes and projects for their solution, including the requisite institutional set-up;

"(d) To support the UNDP national capacity-building efforts through technical, legal and institutional advice in particular and cooperate in the implementation of projects to halt environmental degradation in general; to intensify liaison and interaction with the World Bank; and to increase and improve effective inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

"(e) To assist developing countries to obtain financial resources from donors for programme and project implementation, taking full advantage of the financial mechanisms identified in Agenda 21;

"(f) To continue supporting the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office as a joint venture with UNDP to assist the countries in the region in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;

"(g) To provide assistance to the following regional and subregional environmental programmes: (i) the Cairo Programme for African Cooperation; (ii) the Latin American and the Caribbean regional environmental programme; (iii) the Plan of Action of the Arab Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development; (iv) the west Asia environmental action plan; and (v) the subregional environmental programmes of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, the South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme and the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme;

"(h) To promote the formation of skills through training, workshops, seminars and courses of longer duration".

After paragraph 16.99, add the following new sections B, with paragraphs 16.101-16.106, and C, with existing paragraphs 16.89 to 16.94 (renumbered as 16.107 to 16.112) as follows:

"B. Empowering major groups for environmental action

"16.101 Agenda 21 clearly recognized the important roles major groups can play in combatting environmental degradation and promoting sustainable development, and called for an overall improvement of broad public participation and in decision-making. To do so, major groups should be strengthened and they

should have access to information. The overall aim is to move towards real social partnership in support of common efforts for sustainable development.

"16.102 In order to achieve this objective, UNEP will develop courses of action targeted at specific groups as follows:

"16.103 As regards women, UNEP will:

"(a) Conduct in-depth analysis on (i) the impact on women and other vulnerable groups of environmental degradation, particularly drought, desertification and toxic chemicals; and (ii) structural linkages between gender, environment and development;

"(b) Assist in the implementation of programmes to disseminate environmentally sound technologies for the improvement of the livelihoods of the vulnerable groups.

"16.104 With regard to youth, UNEP will assist in establishing initiatives, mechanisms and processes that provide opportunities for youth's informed participation in sustainable development planning and environmental improvement. With its 'Youth Environmental Agenda' and its network of 12 regional youth focal points, UNEP will continue to develop programmes to raise awareness, organize seminars and workshops and disseminate information.

"16.105 As regards indigenous people, UNEP will facilitate widespread appreciation and dissemination of the holistic traditional knowledge of lands, natural resources and environment residing in many traditional societies as a means to strengthening policies and legal instruments that protect indigeneous communities from environmentally unsound activities, enhance capacity-building and preserve customary and administrative systems and practices.

"16.106 With regard to non-governmental organizations and the business and scientific and technology communities, UNEP will seek: (a) to strengthen the role of formal non-governmental organizations and specialized professional groups as partners in sustainable development and environmental protection; (b) to establish procedures and mechanisms for

consultation, review and cooperation of non-governmental organizations in the implementation of Agenda 21; (c) to forge partnerships with entrepreneurs in the business community to encourage them to embrace the concept of stewardship in the management of and utilization of natural resources and subscribe to sustainable development policies; and (d) to establish links and effective partnerships with the scientific and technological community in order to tap their informed expertise and knowledge for decision-making processes and policies concerning environment and development programme formulation and implementation and to encourage research on and studies of environmental issues that are not well known.

"C. General public awareness, education and general outreach

"16.107 There is widespread environmental illiteracy and a lack of trained environmental specialists to promote sustainable development. Public participation in environmental protection and improvement depends upon their awareness of the environmental problems and possibilities and of the effects of environmental changes on their well-being and of their life-styles on the environment.

"16.108 The main purpose of environmental training is to improve the understanding of and strengthen the skills in environmental assessment and management, in collaboration with the technical parts of UNEP concerned. The UNEP training policy emphasizes the strengthening of relevant skills in the developing countries, with particular attention being given to the development of materials, selection of trainees and follow-up of the training. UNEP implements its awareness-building activities in collaboration with, inter alia, UNESCO, ILO, UNIDO and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat.

"16.109 The continued increase in the production, stockpiling and risk of use of weapons of mass destruction and the development of new types of chemical and bacteriological weapons is one of the problems that will continue to require the greatest attention, because not only does it pose a major threat to the environment and even to life on Earth, but it also leads to diversion of limited resources

that could be used for constructive purposes. It is increasingly recognized that conflicts may arise not only from military threats, but also from environmental degradation and the misdirection of scarce resources or misuse of shared ones.

"16.110 The United Nations will continue to be the main universal body for the maintenance of a reliable security system at the global level. In collaboration with other departments and units of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations, UNEP will continue to assess the environmental consequences of the arms race and regional armed conflicts with a view to contributing to the strengthening of peace and security through the dissemination of appropriate information.

"16.111 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

"(a) To strengthen further the incorporation of environmental education into all levels of educational systems; to assist Governments in sustainable natural resource development, land use and environmental protection through the provision of interdisciplinary training of key personnel; to help Governments ensure public participation in the design and implementation of environmental management activities;

"(b) To match the production of information outputs appropriately and dynamically to outside demand and to the development of the technical programme and to incorporate the information needs of outreach constituencies, including non-governmental organizations, into public awareness programmes so as to maintain and heighten public awareness and concern on environmental issues and sustainable development.

"(c) Through the two objectives mentioned above, to prepare communities and nations to face the environmental challenges of the twenty-first century, particularly problems of climate change, freshwater resources, pollution of oceans, desertification and soil degradation, toxic wastes and conservation of biological diversity within the context of the population-economy-environment relationship and with the ultimate aim of achieving sound and sustainable development for all;

"(d) To increase governmental and public awareness of the environmental impact of military activities and the arms race.

"(b) Course of action of the secretariat

"16.112 The course of action for 1992-1997 includes:

"(a) Environmental education and training: generally within the International Environmental Education Programme, UNEP will (i) continue to promote general environmental education at the national, regional and global levels especially for the benefit of young people, in or out of school; (ii) strengthen and update the incorporation of an environmental dimension into all general university education and into all training courses for professionals, workers, employers, planners, decision makers and other appropriate target groups; (iii) organize specialized training courses for the management of natural resources with a view to achieving sustainable development, with emphasis on techniques suitable for the biophysical, economic and education realities of developing countries, within available resources; and (iv) support interdisciplinary study and training courses for land use and natural resource development managers, [and] team leaders and policy and decision makers.

"(b) Public information: (i) develop communications programmes to deal with priority issues currently facing UNEP (climate change, hazardous wastes, toxic chemicals, tropical deforestation, loss of biological diversity, protection of oceans and coastal areas, protection of freshwater resources, land degradation, including desertification); emphasis will be on technical versus public information, in other words the translation of technical and scientific information into material understandable to a wider public; (ii) target information material to specific national, regional and international audiences, with special emphasis on reaching the general public and enlisting its support to deal with the above problems; (iii) expand cooperation with non-governmental organizations, the media and outreach groups with a view to reaching a wider audience; and (iv) encourage and assist regional information programmes to foster awareness of critical environmental problems and increase UNEP's visibility.

"(c) Peace, security and the environment: (i) undertake studies of the environmental consequences and impact of regional or local conflicts; and (ii) disseminate information to Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public at large on the impact of the arms race on the environment, including the depletion or wasteful use of natural resources, and on the impact of environmental deterioration on national, regional and global security."

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/6 (Prog. 16)/Corr.1
28 September 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme 16. Environment

Corrigendum

1. Paragraph 5

In the table, under subprogramme 9, insert a colon between "Earthwatch" and "data". The same applies to the title of subprogramme 9 in paragraph 16.3 and on page 20.

2. Paragraph 16.14

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"16.14 The above 12 subprogrammes are a consolidation of the 40 chapters of Agenda 21, each of which was considered priority by the international community during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. However, for programmatic purposes, subprogrammes 1-4, 6 and 9-12 are assigned high priority."

3. Paragraph 16.28 (old 16.26)

At the end of the paragraph, add "UNEP's involvement in shared water resources is always with the concurrence of all concerned countries".

4. Paragraph 16.39 (old 16.38)

Add "Global Biological Diversity, Caring for the Earth" after "1982 World Charter for Nature" and at the end of the paragraph, add "and Biodiversity Strategy adopted at Caracas in 1992".

5. Paragraph 16.41, subparagraph (f)

Delete "and protected areas" and add "caring for the Earth" after "World Conservation Strategy".

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/6 (Prog. 17)
8 September 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme 17. Science and technology for sustainable development

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1(1987)).

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions proposed below modify the title and the relevant parts of the narrative of programme 17, Science and technology for development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 and issued in document A/45/6/Rev.1. The title of the programme is revised to read programme 17, Science and technology for sustainable development. The revisions update the narrative on the basis of recent legislative mandates adopted by the intergovernmental bodies, including the United Nations Conference on

---

* After adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, the complete revised medium-term plan will be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1).

92-42764 3627e (E) 100992 130992

/...

Environment and Development. They also reflect the recent changes in the intergovernmental machinery of the United Nations as well as those resulting from the current restructuring of the Secretariat. Owing to the calendar of meetings of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, these revisions were not reviewed by the Commission.

4. Owing to the extensive scope of the revisions to the programme, all paragraphs affected by the revisions are reproduced in their entirety, with the deleted text in brackets and the added text underlined.

5. The following text modifies paragraphs 17.1 to 17.4, 17.7 to 17.12, 17.14 to 17.23, 17.25, 17.27, 17.30 to 17.33, 17.35 and 17.36 of A/45/6/Rev.1.

PROGRAMME 17. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A. Programme

1. General orientation

17.1 The general mandate for this programme derives from General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979, in which the Assembly endorsed the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development and established the Centre for Science and Technology for Development as an organizationally distinct entity of the United Nations Secretariat. The Centre is now incorporated into the Department of Economic and Social Development. Moreover, by its resolution 46/235, the General Assembly decided to establish a new Commission on Science and Technology for Development, which replaces the former Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development.

17.2 The programme on science and technology for sustainable development is designed to [enable interested] enhance the capacity of Member States, particularly developing countries, to [achieve increased autonomy in decision-making in science and technology during a period of rapid and continuing change. The broad objective will be to assist Member States in assessing policy issues and options and in developing initiatives in science and technology in accordance with their needs, aspirations, resources and priorities.] manage technological change in achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development objectives. The overall objective will be to assist Member States, particularly developing countries, in developing endogenous capacities for designing science and technology policies and in assessing the potential of new technologies.

17.3 Integration of science and technology into the process of socio-economic development also means that countries must acquire the capability to utilize, adapt [rapidly changing technologies] and generate new and advanced scientific knowledge and technical know-how according to their priority development needs. The international community must contribute to that effort through increased support for the development of endogenous scientific and technological capabilities, both individual and institutional, at the national and regional levels.

17.4 The main elements of this programme evolve from the [new] direction given by the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its eighth session and reaffirmed at subsequent sessions, and the functions of its successor - the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, namely: (a) to transform the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission's general and global recommendations into country-specific and region-specific activities; (b) to strengthen the Advance Technology [Alert] Assessment System [ATAS], including the selection of substantive themes from technology-laden topics of the agenda of [the General Assembly] the Economic and Social Council and analysing them through the ATAS approach and the creation or enhancement of the capacity of developing countries in assessing the implications of new and emerging sciences and technologies on development; (c) [to provide innovative approaches to coordination of activities of the United Nations system in science and technology; and (d)] to facilitate access by developing countries to information on science and technology; (d) to provide innovative approaches to improving the quality of coordination and cooperation in the area of science and technology within the United Nations system, with a view to ensuring optimum mobilization of resources and to formulating corresponding policy guidelines; and (e) to support, within the mandate of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the high-level Commission on Sustainable Development to be established in accordance with chapter 38 of Agenda 21.

17.7 The process of socio-economic development in the [coming] current decade will be profoundly affected by recent and anticipated progress in scientific and technological innovations. The rapid developments in micro-electronics, biotechnology, energy and materials, and the new and emerging sciences and technologies in general are bound to have a significant and pervasive impact not only on various production sectors but also on the structure of society, [and] the way of life and the environment. They will intensify the challenge and the opportunity to harness effectively science and technology to meet basic, as well as industrial development needs in national economies and will constitute one of the most critical elements of development planning and execution. They will necessitate accelerating the development of endogenous technological capabilities, upon which United Nations activities must be properly focused. Appropriate mobilization of human and financial resources at the national, regional and international levels is needed to achieve the main objective of the Vienna Programme of Action and the science and technology-related objectives of Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Policy makers, as never before, will be faced with a challenge and opportunity to make effectively reasonable and independent decisions on science and technology to meet critical development and environmental needs. It is essential that United Nations activities in science and technology emphasize endogenous capacity-building in order to assist Member States to meet those challenges and opportunities.

17.8 Endogenous capacity-building of developing countries in science and technology lies, among other things, in the capacity of those countries to choose, acquire, adapt, utilize and innovate technologies, including new ones, through technology assessment, including setting up of institutional mechanisms [for technology assessment] in the areas of priority action.

17.9 Consequently, international cooperation [to foster the endogenous] to support capacity-building in developing countries [that is, their autonomous

decision-making in science and technology,] must be oriented to the demand-driven priorities in order to support their efforts in economic growth, social [and] development and environmental protection and should emphasize management of technology in order to cope with technological change, promote scientific inventions and technological innovations in developing countries and to progress on the path towards sustainable development.

2. Overall strategy

17.10 The [Centre for Science and Technology for Development of the Secretariat] Department of Economic and Social Development is responsible for the elaboration and implementation of this programme. Its main tasks [is to assist the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation in fulfilling the responsibility assigned to him in the Vienna Programme of Action, particularly in providing] are to provide the necessary substantive support to the [Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and] Commission on Science and Technology for Development in coordinating activities at the secretariat level related to science and technology within the United Nations system. In view of the intersectoral character of science and technology, there is a close relationship between this programme and those carried out by organizational units involved in science and technology-related activities, including UNCTAD, the regional commissions [, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the Secretariat] and UNEP, as well as between the United Nations programme in science and technology, and science and technology-related programmes of organizations of the United Nations system. This programme will also be carried out in close coordination with the implementation of programmes 19, Natural resources, and 20, Energy. In carrying out the programme, the Department will seek to promote, in particular, coordination and complementarity between the activities of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and those of the high-level Commission on Sustainable Development to be established in accordance with chapter 38 of Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

17.11 The [Centre] Department assists the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission in providing policy guidelines for the organizations of the United Nations system with regard to scientific and technological activities and monitoring these activities within the system, in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and the science and technology related provisions of Agenda 21. The mechanisms through which such coordination is effected at the secretariat level [is] are the Task Force on Science and Technology for Development and the Task Force on Sustainable Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

3. Subprogramme structure and priorities

17.12 The subprogramme structure proposed under this programme [follows in essence that presented in the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, as revised and extended to 1991, with the exception of subprogramme 1, Policy analysis, research and the mobilization of resources for science and technology for development. Further experiences in the implementation of the

programme related to endogenous capacity-building and further developments in discussions at the ninth and tenth sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development suggest that it would be more appropriate to change the title of subprogramme 1 so that it better reflects the thrust of the activities undertaken under the subprogramme.] aims at better reflecting the overall substantive thrust of the activities undertaken. It also takes into account the implications of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly Agenda 21, with regard to science and technology. Consequently, the four subprogrammes proposed under the programme are as follows:

Subprogramme 1. [Endogenous] Capacity-building and resource mobilization

Subprogramme 2. Advance Technology [Alert] Assessment System

Subprogramme 3. Coordination and harmonization of activities of the United Nations system on science and technology for sustainable development

Subprogramme 4. Information services

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. [ENDOGENOUS] CAPACITY-BUILDING AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

17.14 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 34/218, section II, paragraph 5, and section III, paragraph 3, 37/244, section II, A and C; 41/183, 42/192, 44/14 B, [and] S-18/3 (annex, para. 28), 46/165, para. 1, and 46/235; (and) Intergovernmental Committee resolutions 6 (V), 4 (VIII), 6 (VIII), 6 (IX), 2 (X) and 1 (XI); and the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

17.15 The [10-year] experience since the 1979 Vienna Conference has underlined the need to move [away from] beyond the narrow concept of endogenous capacity as merely the development of an ample stock of scientists, technologists and institutions, towards the establishment of an effective linkage between science and technology and overall national development objectives. Furthermore, capacity-building activities in science and technology need to reflect the overall new integrated approach to all aspects of development and environment, such as adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Activities in endogenous capacity-building in science and technology are designed to assist Member States in conceptualizing, planning and implementing national policies that seek to identify factors that influence their endogenous science and technology capabilities in the context of their priority needs, aspirations, resource endowments and sustainable development objectives. The contribution of the United Nations system [in particular, could] should therefore be [more usefully] aimed at the main components of endogenous capacity-building: (a) the ability to conduct effective national dialogues [among partners (stakeholders) in the development process] for the formulation of [a portfolio of] the necessary initiatives ranked by priority, in science and technology for sustainable development; and (b) the capacity to monitor, to assess and to

forecast effectively the implications of science and technology [with special emphasis on new and emerging sciences and technologies].

17.16 The approach [currently utilized by the Centre for Science and Technology for Development]) followed by the Department of Economic and Social Development and interested organizations of the United Nations system in initiating [experimental] endogenous capacity-building [processes] programmes in a [few] number of countries has given [some first] indications of its worth in accomplishing the objective of promoting endogenous capacity. The participation in national dialogues of stakeholders in the development process has proved to be an essential element in establishing a broad area of consensus in identifying by priority science and technology initiatives for sustainable development. This broad participatory decision-making process should help to bring about sustainable policies for the future and should facilitate the implementation of these policies; [in the face of the inevitable fluctuations over time in the national and international environments].

17.17 In the light of the experience gained, endogenous capacity-building activities of the [Centre] Department during the course of the [forthcoming] medium-term period will [continue to] reflect the [directive of transforming the general recommendations of the Committee into] need to implement the decisions of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in interaction and harmony with the relevant decisions and recommendations of the future high-level Commission on Sustainable Development, in a country-specific context to meet the interest of individual Member States and the need for international assistance in critical areas of science and technology for their sustainable development. The key feature of the subprogramme is the consensus-building dialogue process among stakeholders in the sustainable development process. Based on recommendations to be made by national institutions of the countries concerned, policies and programmes would address topics of relevance to national sustainable development, which would be conducive to the development of a [portfolio] set of initiatives for priority investment in science and technology.

17.18 In the decade following the Vienna Conference, it has become increasingly clear that [no serious efforts at developing or strengthening] in order to strengthen endogenous capability in science and technology [would be possible without the] a concerted mobilization of resources - financial, human and institutional is called for at the national level, supplemented, [where possible] as needed, by assistance at the international level. Concerted efforts at the international level, including those by UNDP, the World Bank, the regional development banks and other international development aid agencies, will be required. Efforts are also needed to ensure the effective support to capacity-building activities by the new facilities and mechanisms that are or will be established within the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, such as the Global Environmental Facility. The programme [of the Secretariat] will seek to achieve this objective by providing, on the basis of the outcome of the endogenous capacity-building projects, the required support in the implementation of [the portfolio of] national intiatives. [ranked by priority. The attainment of the objective would require the mobilization of institutional, human, financial and other resources, including cooperation with the World Bank and the regional development banks, in widening the windows of science and

technology in their programmes, as well as with the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development, UNDP and other multilateral arrangements.]

[17.19 The involvement of the United Nations in endogenous capacity-building, however, should not be an endless process; it should rather aim at enabling the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development to come to a general formulation of sets of recommendations for consideration by Member States that need to develop their own endogenous capacity-building programmes to meet their specific needs.]

[17.20] New 17.19 This subprogramme will therefore aim at supporting the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission on Science and Technology for Development in its role of strengthening the endogenous scientific and technological capacities of Member States, in particular the developing countries, of promoting the mobilization of financial and other resources through the coalition of resources to contribute to the full integration of science and technology in national sustainable development, of promoting the optimum utilization of resources of the United Nations system and other sources to attain the objectives of the Vienna Programme of Action and of the science and technology-related provisions of Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and of providing specific policy guidance and priorities for the activities of the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development within the framework of the Vienna Programme of Action.

(b) Course of action by the Secretariat

[17.21] New 17.20 Activities under this subprogramme will be oriented in a way that would respond effectively to General Assembly resolution 44/14 A to E, and to the science and technology provisions of Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Accordingly, the [Centre] Department will undertake the following activities:

(a) Undertake pilot studies for endogenous capacity-building, at the invitation of interested Member States, in up to 10 developing countries to assist national efforts towards effective utilization of science and technology for development, including blending of technologies in small and medium-sized enterprises, subject to review by the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission within a three-year period, with a view to determining under what conditions these programmes could be continued with minimal involvement of the [Centre] Department, the most critical component of which are the series of national dialogues of stakeholders in national development, including policy makers and planners, bankers, scientists and technologists, entrepreneurs and others, designed to facilitate the identification of prioritized initiatives in science and technology for development;

(b) Provide follow-up to recommendations of the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission on priority areas, such as specific science and technology programmes for Africa;

(c) Continue to provide substantive secretariat support to the [Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development, its task forces and panels of specialists;] Commission;

(d) Continue to undertake studies, [in cooperation with the Advisory Committee] through in-depth examination by panels of experts on substantive themes to be considered by the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission;

(e) Assist Member States in the conceptualization of science and technology policy issues and options in the mobilization of human and financial resources, including fiscal incentives and disincentives and training and education;

(f) Support the elaboration of measures, policies and mechanisms to enhance developing countries' capacities to define capacity-building requirements, to generate, acquire and efficiently manage environmentally sound technologies;

(g) Examine ways and means of increasing the efficiency of indigenous technology in developing countries;

(h) Promote regional and subregional cooperation among developing countries in the field of capacity-building;

[(f)] New (i) Cooperate with the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development, the regional development banks, international and, as appropriate, national funding agencies in the launching of pilot studies on endogenous capacity-building;

[(g)] New (j) Cooperate with UNDP, as appropriate, in the conceptualization of the indicative planning figure programme contents towards more effective integration of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology for development;

(k) Support the establishment of a network of community-based learning centres for capacity-building and sustainable development.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY [ALERT] ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

(a) Objectives

[17.22] New 17.21 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 34/218, section II, paragraph 5 (g), section III, and 44/14 E; Intergovernmental Committee resolutions 4 (VI), paragraph 1, 4 (VII), paragraph 73, decision 1 (VII), resolution 1 (IX) I, paragraph 1, (and) 2 (X), paragraph 10, and 1 (XI), section C, paragraph 5; and the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

[17.23] New 17.22 [No serious attempt has been made in the past] Renewed efforts have been made to include technology assessment as part of the process of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology. Recent trends have confirmed that technology assessment capacity should become an integral part of endogenous capacity-building, as the ability to choose among technologies, including new and emerging sciences and technologies, would presume the ability to assess the implications of those technologies on development.

[17.25] New 17.24 Bearing in mind the fact that [from 1989 onward] pursuant to the mandate given in 1988 by the General Assembly to the Intergovernmental Committee, the choice of substantive themes for analysis by the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission on Science and Technology for Development would be based on the relevance of science and technology to the agenda of the General Assembly and that it would be analysed through [the ATAS] a technology assessment approach and taking into account the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the [Centre]) Department would undertake the following activities:

(a) Provide support to the [Intergovernmental Committee in its role of initiating arrangements] Commission for the early identification and assessment of new scientific and technological developments that may positively or adversely affect the development process for strengthening the endogenous scientific and technological capacities of the developing countries [(the Centre's role in this respect would be similar to the role that the Centre already plays in national endogenous capacity-building dialogues, engaging the expertise of the United Nations system)];

(b) Serve as the focal point for technological assessment within the United Nations system and, where possible, for relations with Governments and non-governmental organizations concerning technological assessment activities in Member States;

(c) Assess and forecast regional, subregional and national technology needs/priorities as they relate to the sustainable development objectives in developing countries;

[c] New (d) Provide policy guidance via the technology assessment approach on issues of topical interest in the General Assembly debate;

[d] New (e) Facilitate access to available expertise and increase the role of ATAS as a catalyst in technology assessment efforts through an informal technology alert network of technology assessment institutions;

(f) Execute projects for training and research in technology assessment in developing countries as well as for the institutionalization of technology assessment in the decision-making process;

(g) Formulate methodologies for technology assessment, and guidelines for the application of assessment results in policy decisions relating to sustainable development;

(h) Promote the strengthening of assessment networks, such as the Advance Technology Assessment System, as a global framework for exchanging information on and development of capacities for technology assessment;

(i) Promote methods of assessing effective demand utilizing environment and development data as criteria for technology selection;

(j) Identify and assess developing countries' research needs and requirements in the context of achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development objectives, taking into account international efforts in research and development of environmentally sound technologies.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. COORDINATION AND HARMONIZATION OF ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(a) Objectives

[17.27] New 17.26 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolution 34/218, section II, paragraphs 3, 4 and 5, and section IV, paragraphs 1 to 5, 42/192, [and] 44/14 C and 46/235; Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/79; Intergovernmental Committee resolutions 4 (VII), paragraphs 10 and 11, 1 (VIII), paragraphs 2 and 6, 4 (VIII), paragraph 1, 1 (IX) I, paragraphs 2 and 5, 4 (IX) and 2 (X), and the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

[17.30] New 17.29 The objective of the subprogramme will be to assist the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission on Science and Technology for Development in strengthening the role of the organizations of the United Nations system in the integration of science and technology for development by providing policy guidelines for the harmonization of policies, to improve the linkages between the organizations towards coordinated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action at the country level, and to monitor the science and technology activities and programmes of the organizations of the system with a view to optimum mobilization of resources to carry out the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

[17.31] New 17.30 To that end, the [Centre] Department will assist the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission on Science and Technology for Development to formulate and implement guidelines for the harmonization of policies, plans and procedures of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in regard to scientific and technological activities and to [assist the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation in the coordination] coordinate at the secretariat level science and technology activities within the United Nations system. In examining ways and means to improve the quality of coordination in the system, the Department will, in particular, support and seek to facilitate the establishment of a successful interaction and complementarity between the activities of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the high-level Commission on Sustainable Development to be established in accordance with chapter 38 of Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

[17.32] New 17.31 Decisions on policy guidelines on the activities of the United Nations system in science and technology will be implemented through (a) joint efforts with interested organizations in effective work programmes for enhancing the endogenous scientific and technological capabilities of Member States; (b) inter-agency country reviews, to be undertaken in cooperation with United Nations resident coordinators and interested organizations of the United Nations system; and (c) preparation of reports, in consultation with the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology for Development, on specific issues of coordination to be submitted to the [Intergovernmental Committee] Commission for its consideration and decision.

SUBPROGRAMME 4. INFORMATION SERVICES

(a) Objectives

[17.33] New 17.32 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolution 34/218, section III, paragraph 3; [and] Intergovernmental Committee resolutions 2 (VII), 1 (IX) I, paragraph 2, and 2 (IX), paragraph 10; and the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

[17.35] New 17.34 The objective of this subprogramme therefore is (a) to facilitate access by interested Member States to scientific and technological information and to assist them in the conceptualization of policies towards enhancement of their science and technology information infrastructure; and (b) to continue to make available to Member States and organizations of the United Nations system information on progress in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, of the science and technology-related provisions of Agenda 21 and other significant developments in science and technology.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

[17.36] New 17.35 In implementing the activities under this subprogramme, Member States, particularly the least developed countries, will be provided, at their request, with advisory services in the conceptualization of science and technology information policy issues and options and with basic scientific and technological information literature. The quarterly publication of Update [and media presentations, such as video, of successful experiences of Member States in the application of specific science and technology policy options for development] will be made available. The [Centre] Department will continue to develop and make available to Member States, upon request, directories of databases available in Member States on science and technology activities of organizations within the United Nations system. The Department will monitor and report information submitted by Governments, for example, in the form of periodic communications or national reports regarding initiatives in the area of science and technology to implement Agenda 21, and on the problems countries face in that regard. It will also promote the exchange of information with regard to the strengthening of national early warning systems, with particular emphasis on the use of modern technologies such as remote sensing. Efforts will also continue to be made to establish contacts with science editors of leading professional journals and important international news organs to further disseminate work related to the implementation of the decisions of the [Intergovernmental Committee] legislative organs of the United Nations. The [Centre] Department will cooperative with relevant non-governmental organizations, such as the World Association of International Research Organizations, the Third World Academy of Science, [ICSU] the International Council of Scientific Unions, and the International Association for Impact Assessment, and national organizations such as the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the French Association of Scientists and Engineers, in the implementation of this subprogramme.